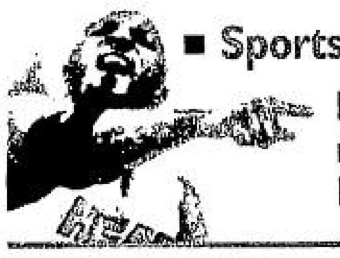

■ Sports / A24
**Miami nears NBA Finals**

■ Metro / A19
**5,000 may lose jobs at MMDA**

■ Business / B1
**Morgan Stanley bullish on RP**

■ World / A10
**Israel troops admit 'eye-for-an-eye' killing spree**

■ Saturday Special / A3-2
**Carrie Underwood is country music's bright new hope**

## Columnist Teddy Benigno succumbs to cancer; 81

TEODORO "Teddy" Benigno, one of the Philippines' most prominent journalists known for his unrelenting crusades against the excesses of those in power, died Friday at the age of 81.

Benigno, who also served

COLUMNIST/A17

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

## Laughter in Abu Sayyaf trial fails to amuse judge

By Tarra V. Quismundo

AT THE TRIAL of suspects linked to the Feb. 14 bombing in Makati City:

"When you joined the Abu Sayyaf, was there an application form you had

LAUGHTER/A17

TINANONG DIN SANA KUNG KA ANO-ANO SINA ABU SADO AT ABU RIDO?

email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph
Saturday, June 4, 2005 ★★ ~~82~~ 78 pages / 11 sections / Vol. 19 / No. 176 P18
website: www.inq7.net

# GMA: I feel your pain, too

## With lowest rating ever, Arroyo pleads for more patience

By Christine O. Avendaño and Christian V. Esguerra

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo may hold the lowest performance rating ever for a Philippine leader since 1986, but this is not stopping her from making "painful" decisions.

Speaking yesterday in Tublay, Benguet, where she inaugurated new road and irrigation systems funded by the Japanese and Australian governments, Ms Arroyo again called on the people to bear the "pain" that would result from her administration's economic reforms.

"I feel pain when people feel pain," she said. "I ask for more patience from you, because the pain we have to bear for now will be the seed of our future economic stability and prosperity."

But a Catholic bishop warned that the situation was ripe for another public uprising or a coup attempt.

"The people are suffering too much already and because of that, there are those, besides the hungry, who think that something drastic must be done," Caloocan Bishop Deogracias Iñiguez said in Filipino.

"If we don't control this direction, we are afraid that something like a people power [revolt] or a power grab may take place," he told a general assembly of the Kilusang Makabansang Ekonomiya (KME) at the University of Santo Tomas in Manila.

Iñiguez aired the warning a day after the Social Weather Stations announced that Ms Arroyo's performance rating plummeted to -33 in May—the lowest rating for a Philippine President since the toppling of the Marcos dictatorship.

The bishop and the KME are preparing to lead a "national day

GMA/A6

**HER ABYSMAL** public approval ratings notwithstanding, President Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday flew north to inspect newly completed road, irrigation and bridge projects in Barangay Tuel, Tublay, Benguet province.

EDWIN BACASMAS

## Cha-cha call draws mixed reactions

By TJ Burgonio and Christine O. Avendaño

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo's plan to call a constitutional convention that would move the country from the presidential to the parliamentary system of government drew guarded statements yesterday from both opposition and administration leaders in Congress.

"If the statement is not intended to divert the attention of the public away from the scandals rocking her government, certainly I support the need to change the Constitution," Senate Minority Leader Aquilino Pimentel Jr. said in a telephone interview.

"That jibes with my position that we shift to a federal type of government," he said, stressing that this would speed up economic development and "bring just and lasting peace in Mindanao and elsewhere."

Senate Majority Leader Francis Pangilinan said he did not agree that changing the form of government would solve the country's problems. "It isn't changing our fundamental law that matters but implementing it and other laws in full that does," said Pangilinan.

Another administration senator, Ralph Recto, said a charter change is not the "sole road to national salvation." He added, "it will only be effective if implemented with other

CHA-CHA/A18

## Witness described as Ping's hatchetman

By Michael Lim Ubac and Juliet Labog-Javellana

THE CONFESSED "jueteng" operator who testified that President Macapagal-Arroyo's eldest child received monthly payoffs through a bagman is a "political hatchet man" of Sen. Panfilo Lacson, according to leaders of the pro-administration Kabalikat ng Malayang Pilipino (Kampi).

At a press conference yesterday in Quezon City, Camarines Sur Rep. Luis Villafuerte and Negros Occidental Rep. Ignacio Arroyo said Lacson was the unseen hand behind the explosive testimony of Wilfredo "Boy" Mayor last Monday at the start of the Senate's joint inquiry into the illegal numbers game.

Mayor, a witness of Lingayen-Dagupan Archbishop Oscar Cruz, named Pampanga Rep. Juan Miguel "Mikey" Arroyo and other government officials as alleged beneficiaries of jueteng payola.

Villafuerte said the archbishop was Lacson's "unwitting tool."

Antipolo Rep. Ronaldo Puno, however, was careful not to train his guns on the prelate. "I don't think Archbishop Cruz is a fair game. His reputation, without exaggeration, is impossible to assail," Puno said.

But the INQUIRER was furnished yesterday a photocopy of two identification cards ostensibly showing Mayor to be a card-bearing member and "coordinator" of Ms Arroyo's party.

A "Bigkis Pinoy Movement" card and a Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo Para sa Bayan Movement card identifies Wilfredo C. Mayor as coordinator.

The GMAPM card, which has a picture of a smiling Ms Arroyo in the background, shows that Mayor, who listed his residence at No. 38 Orendain St., Doña Maria Subd., Tagas, Daraga, Albay, obtained his card on March 26, 2004, or two months before the presidential election.

The GMAPM card was signed

WITNESS/A17

## Herbal beauty traders face P160-M tax raps

By Cynthia D. Balana

IS THE success of their herbal and beauty products proving dangerous to their financial health?

Yesterday, the owner of the Glo Herbal Trading and Manufacturing and two independent distributors of Forever Living Products (FLP) in the Philippines joined the Bureau of Internal Revenue's growing list of alleged big tax evaders charged before the Department of Justice.

Charged with non-declaration and non-payment of taxes for their actual income as self-employed individuals were Gloria Tuyay, proprietor of the Glo Herbal Trading and Benjamin Kintanar Jr. and his wife, Gloria, of FLP.

BIR Commissioner Guillermo Parayno said Tuyay's assessed tax deficiencies amounted to P110.3 million for 2001 and P4.5 million for 2002.

Parayno said Tuyay failed to present her book of accounts and other accounting records despite having been served a letter of authority and several notices by the BIR.

The proprietor of Glo Herbal, a popular herbal concoction that sold millions for its supposed healing qualities, claimed to have earned only P24.7 million in 2001 and P5.8 million in 2002.

But the BIR, using the expenditures method, reconstructed Tuyay's income and said it found out that she actually earned P132.8 million in 2001 and P6

HERBAL/A18

## Palawan safe despite malaria scare, execs say

By Jofelle P. Tesorio, *PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*, Christian V. Esguerra and Philip C. Tubeza

PUERTO PRINCESA CITY—Palawan officials said their scenic island remained a safe place for travelers, as a third broadcast journalist died yesterday after falling ill following a trip to the area.

The island is "not shivering with chills" from malaria, Rep. Abraham Mitra said, denying that visiting Palawan posed a risk to travelers.

Provincial Gov. Joel T. Reyes said that although malaria was endemic in some places in Palawan, urban areas—including resorts and tourist destinations—were safe.

There is no outbreak of malaria in Palawan, Reyes said.

Palawan, known as the last frontier for its well-preserved natural and marine resources, is a choice destination of local and foreign tourists.

As authorities tried to erase what they said were misim-

PALAWAN/A18

## A face-lift for Mike Arroyo

By Fe Zamora

FIRST Gentleman Jose Miguel "Mike" Arroyo may have had some minor surgery done on his face, apparently in preparation for an appearance before an ongoing congressional investigation into "jueteng," or the illegal numbers game, the INQUIRER has learned.

Arroyo underwent a one-hour cosmetic surgery procedure on Thursday morning at the Cosmetic Surgery and Laser Center of Dr. Raul Guanzon in Libis, Quezon City. He was scheduled for a checkup at another of Guanzon's clinics in Greenhills, San Juan, yesterday afternoon.

According to one source, what

A FACE-LIFT/A17

**ABU'S FOLLY**

VAL HANDUMON

The half-finished Sampaguita Recreation Center, a 60-room resort facility for the military in Boracay. Armed Forces Chief of Staff Efren Abu has been much criticized for his alleged squandering of military funds for the project. *(Story on Page A2.)*

**WEATHER FORECAST**

FORECAST: Western section of Luzon will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will have partly cloudy to cloudy skies with isolated rainshowers and thunderstorms.

SOURCE: PAGASA

COMPILED BY ERIKA SARMIENTO, PDI RESEARCH/06/04/05

# Second FRONT PAGE

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|---|---|---|---|
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| Baguio | Cloudy with Rains | Roxas | Partly Cloudy |
| Tuguegarao | Cloudy with Rains | Cebu | Partly Cloudy |
| Laoag | Cloudy with Rains | Tacloban | Partly Cloudy |
| Clark Zone | Cloudy with Rains | Gen. Santos | Cloudy with Rains |
| Tagaytay | Partly Cloudy | Zamboanga | Cloudy with Rains |
| Legazpi | Partly Cloudy | Cagayan de Oro | Partly Cloudy |
| Calapan | Partly Cloudy | Davao | Partly Cloudy |

# Grace now wants 'jueteng' legalized

By Leila B. Salaverria

**ISABELA governor Grace Padaca, who made the explosive disclosure that mayors in her province were receiving money from "jueteng" operators, supports the legalization of the controversial numbers game.**

She was making the stand "out of desperation" because government efforts to stop the illegal numbers game had failed, Padaca told reporters yesterday in a forum at the Ambassador Hotel in Manila.

She added that her desperation was borne out of frustration. As a former broadcaster, she had seen how government efforts to stop jueteng had failed.

"Legalization is the only path that hasn't been tried. It's always been set aside. But it's the easiest and quickest way to solve the problem," she said.

Although Padaca would rather not have jueteng legalized, she said she preferred that earnings from the illegal numbers game not be used for protection money.

"This is my way of annoying those receiving *intelligencia* (jueteng money). The money would not pass their hands but would go to the government. The operators are earning a lot from jueteng. Where does this money go?" she said.

According to Padaca, if jueteng were to be legalized, it should be done soon because many of the collectors are already out of work.

"Now that there is no jueteng, the collectors are restive," she said.

Padaca's stand conflicts with that of Archbishop Oscar Cruz, a vocal jueteng critic. Cruz once helped Padaca on her exposé on the illegal numbers game.

Asked if she would be affected by Cruz's views, she said, "That's why I'm being careful with my statements. We haven't talked about it, but my stand is for legalization of jueteng."

Cruz said he opposed the legalization of jueteng, saying it is immoral and an indication that the government has failed to do its job.

But Padaca added that she was grateful to Cruz, who had advised her to be prepared for smear campaigns and to simply laugh off allegations.

The Isabela governor also said yesterday that Wilfredo "Boy" Mayor, who had identified several government officials as beneficiaries of jueteng money, should be given a chance to be heard despite moves to discredit him.

Asked if she thought Mayor was a credible witness, Padaca said: "They're looking for flaws in his character. But what person with integrity would get involved in jueteng? We should be thankful that someone who knows about the operation is coming out."

She added that police need not conduct numerous raids to stop jueteng operations.

"I think there are people at the top (gambling lords) the police could talk to and jueteng will stop. They need not conduct raids everyday," she said.

# *Señeres: I'm not out yet*

By Jerome Aning

OUTGOING National Labor Relations Commission chair Roy Señeres yesterday said Malacañang's appointment of an NLRC officer in charge as his replacement was illegal as the post was not yet vacant.

In a letter to Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita, Señeres said his resignation on May 23, which President Macapagal-Arroyo has accepted, would take effect only on June 30.

And since he did not go on vacation or terminal leave, the President's appointment of Raul Aquino as NLRC officer in charge violated civil service laws and regulations, Señeres said.

Señeres said Malacañang should recall Aquino's appointment or at least postpone it to avoid confusion in the NLRC "that could adversely affect the promotion of industrial peace and the dispensation of social justice."

On Thursday, Señeres issued a memorandum telling NLRC officials and employees to disregard Aquino's appointment, saying he was still at the helm of the agency during the turn-over period as required by the civil service rules.

SEÑERES

In his letter, he told Ermita that resignation being a purely voluntary act, its date of effectivity was determined by the person resigning and not the one accepting it.

"In my case, I have resigned voluntarily. I was not terminated from service. Therefore, I am the only one who has the right to determine the effective date of my resignation, not you, not anyone, not even the President," he said in his letter.

Aquino's "superfluous" apppointment could make him liable for usurpation if he tries to act as OIC, Señeres said in a phone interview.

He said Aquino, who has been informed of Señeres' position, was "very dependable and competent" and that the two of them have remained good friends.

As senior NLRC commissioner, Aquino would automatically become acting NLRC head only if the chair was absent, unavailable or incapacitated, or if the position was vacant, Señeres said.

"There is no vacancy so there should be no OIC. But it is with my consent that he is acting chair when I am temporarily indisposed," he added.

Seneres also accused Labor Secretary Patricia Sto. Tomas of having started to exercise administrative supervisory authority of the NLRC even in the absence of implementing rules and guidelines.

The President, who earlier accused Señeres' of being involved in a plot to destabilize the government, on May 1 ordered the labor department to assume administrative jurisdiction over the NLRC, effectively clipping Señeres' powers.

Señeres said the move was illegal and threatened to take the issue to court.

This ultimately led to Seneres' openly denouncing the Arroyo administration and calling for its ouster, and his eventual resignation.

A career civil servant and former ambassador to the United Arab Emirates, Señeres was one of the few remaining holdover appointees of ousted President Estrada.

# Anti-'jueteng' bishop disowns 'destab' plot

By Christian V. Esguerra

ARCHBISHOP Oscar Cruz said Malacañang was mistaken in saying that the current controversy over "jueteng," or the illegal numbers game, was part of destabilization moves by the opposition.

The anti-jueteng crusader and Lingayen-Dagupan prelate said it was him, and not the political opposition, that had revived awareness that jueteng operations were going on unabated under the Arroyo administration.

"I'm definitely not out to seek her [President Macapagal-Arroyo's] ouster. I just want her to rid the country of jueteng. That's all," said Cruz.

He said he has never allowed his advocacy to be used by any group or individual who might be riding on the scandal to seek the President's ouster.

"I just want jueteng to be eradicated because it has been causing so much corruption and has been exploiting the poor," he said.

A top Palace official, who declined to be named, earlier claimed that the scandal that has so far implicated the President's husband and congressman-son was part of a three-pronged plot to bring down Ms Arroyo that was allegedly designed and funded by deposed President Estrada.

Cruz, who heads the Krusadang Bayan Laban sa Jueteng, said he was never in touch with any opposition figures in his campaign against the underground lottery system that anti-jueteng crusaders claim was now a P13-billion industry.

"I've been crying out against jueteng since four years ago. This is not something new to me," said Cruz.

The bishop recalled three instances between 1998 and 2001 when he personally brought up the matter with Ms Arroyo, who was the then vice president, during her visits to his archdiocese.

"I expressed this concern to her and she said she would look into it. But what happened was jueteng only grew when she became President," Cruz said.

Cruz said he has at least eight witnesses set to appear in the ongoing Senate jueteng investigation. He said the witnesses would name the beneficiaries and protectors of operations in the country.

One of the witnesses, Wilfredo Mayor, a self-confessed former jueteng operator, on Monday claimed that the President's son, Pampanga Rep. Juan Miguel "Mikey" Arroyo of Pampanga received P600,000 in monthly payola from jueteng.

He was promptly slapped with libel and perjury charges by the three people he alleged were the young Arroyo's bagmen—Rene Maglanque, Leon Katigbak and Arturo Lopez.

Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez, who had earlier threatened to file charges against Mayor, said the case against Mayor would test if a person could indeed tell all under the cloak of Senate immunity.

On Wednesday, the National Bureau of Investigation presented witnesses Rizalino Serilla, 60, and Nangte Bodino, 44, to discredit Mayor's testimony.

The two claimed that Mayor could not have known who was who in jueteng because he was merely a "fixer" like them.

Cruz said that if Gonzalez's line of thinking were to be followed, then Serilla and Bodino should also be slapped with criminal charges for admitting their involvement in the illegal lottery.

# Boracay resort one big AFP folly—Pimentel

By Juliet Labog-Javellana

ANOTHER black eye.

This was how Senate Minority Leader Aquilino Pimentel Jr. described Armed Forces of the Philippines latest project—a 60-room military beach resort in Boracay.

"I think the military resort project was one big folly which has given the AFP another black eye. Why would the AFP focus on constructing a resort, when even the basic logistics and provisions for our combat troops are sorely lacking?" Pimentel said yesterday.

He said the project of AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Efren Abu showed how "scarce public funds were being squandered due to misplaced priorities" of the AFP command.

Pimentel asked the AFP leadership to release the contract and disbursement records and other documents pertaining to the construction of the "Sampaguita Family Recreation Center" to prove that the project had not been built from public funds.

The senator said that instead of boosting the morale of soldiers, the project had the opposite effect. It demoralized soldiers reeling from inadequate pay, not enough food rations, medicines and equipment.

"For heaven's sake, if this is a priority of the AFP, it is wrong," Pimentel said.

He expressed hope that Abu would reconsider the project before retiring on June 24.

"And whoever would succeed Gen. Abu should be reform-minded. Otherwise, the credibility of the AFP will continue to suffer," Pimentel said.

The senator added that like the military golf courses, the beach resort could end up benefiting just the generals and officers who would have the means to vacation in Boracay.

"How can ordinary soldiers, with their meager salaries, go to Boracay and pay the P7,000 plane fare or the P2,000 boat fare?" Pimentel said.

In Zamboanga, Sorsogon Rep. Francis Escudero said he wanted to know the donors to the Sampaguita Family Recreation Center in Boracay.

"We would like to know where the money came from, who gave it and in exchange for what?" Escudero said, adding that he would pursue the issue when the House committee on national defense resumes its hearing next week.

If indeed the funds used for the recreation center came from donations, Escudero said, it would still be immoral under Republic Act 3019 or the anti-graft law. *With Julie S. Alipala, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

# Sandigan nixes Imelda's trip to China

THE SANDIGANBAYAN yesterday denied a petition by flamboyant former first lady Imelda Marcos to seek treatment for her ailing knees in China, saying the problem can be fixed at home.

The 75-year-old widow of former dictator Ferdinand Marcos faces a string of civil and criminal charges relating to her husband's $683 million Swiss bank deposits, and needs court permission to travel abroad.

The justices of the anti-graft court sided with prosecutors who objected to Marcos' request, saying she had failed to respect previous dates set by the court for her return to the Philippines.

Marcos' lawyer Robert Sison said the former first lady, better known for her enormous shoe collection and extravagant lifestyle during Ferdinand Marcos' 20 years in power, wanted to consult a Shanghai alternative medicine practitioner about her knees.

"Our local doctors are very competent and equipped with the latest medical equipment ... to perform Marcos' desired evaluation," the judges said in their ruling. "Surely, her knee problem can find a remedy in this country."

Prosecutors also noted that Marcos "is actually very capable of walking around with relative ease."

Ferdinand Marcos was toppled by a popular revolt in 1986, and died in exile in Hawaii three years later.

Last year, the court also denied Imelda Marcos' petition to attend former US President Ronald Reagan's funeral. She claimed she was invited by Reagan's widow, Nancy.

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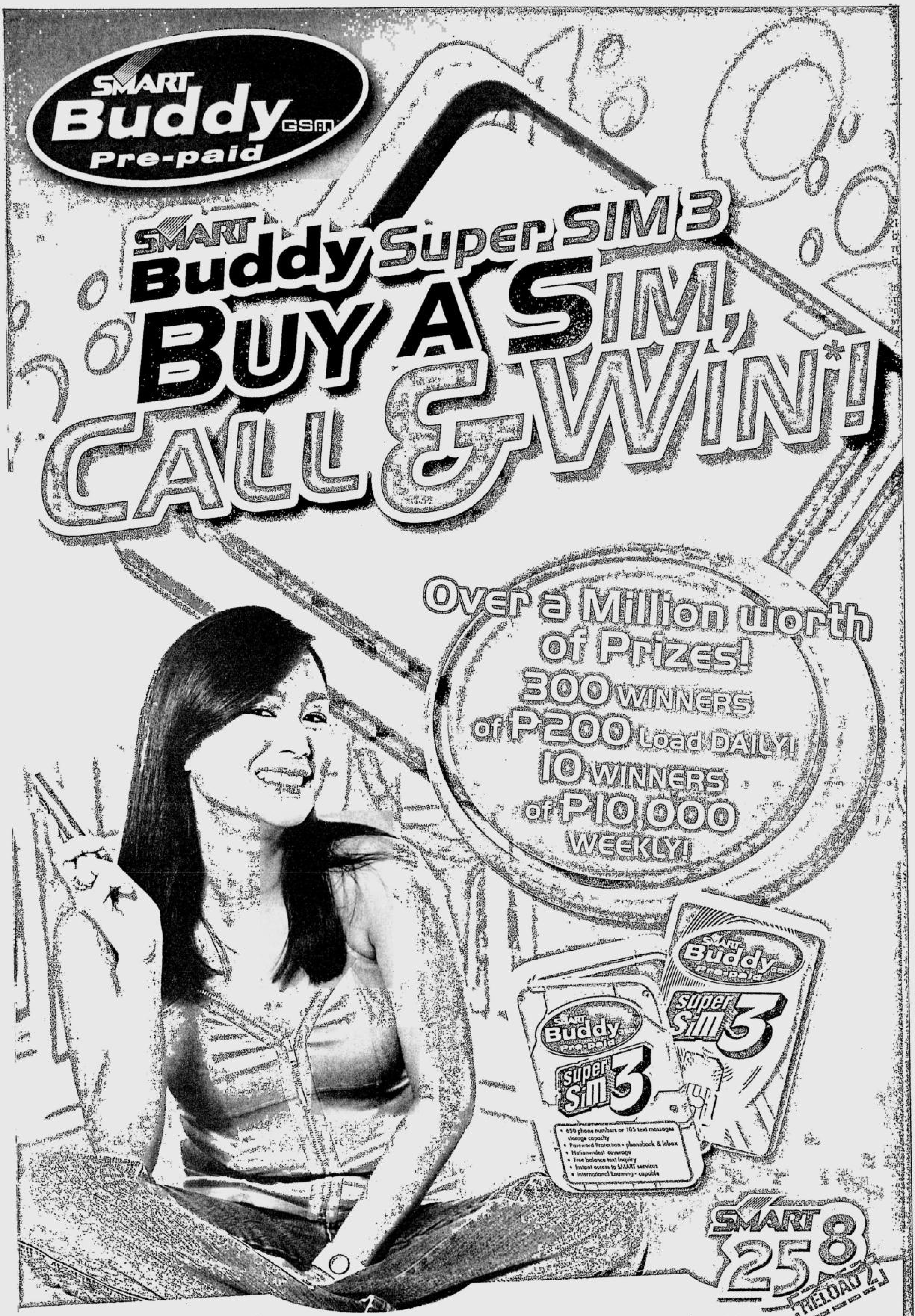
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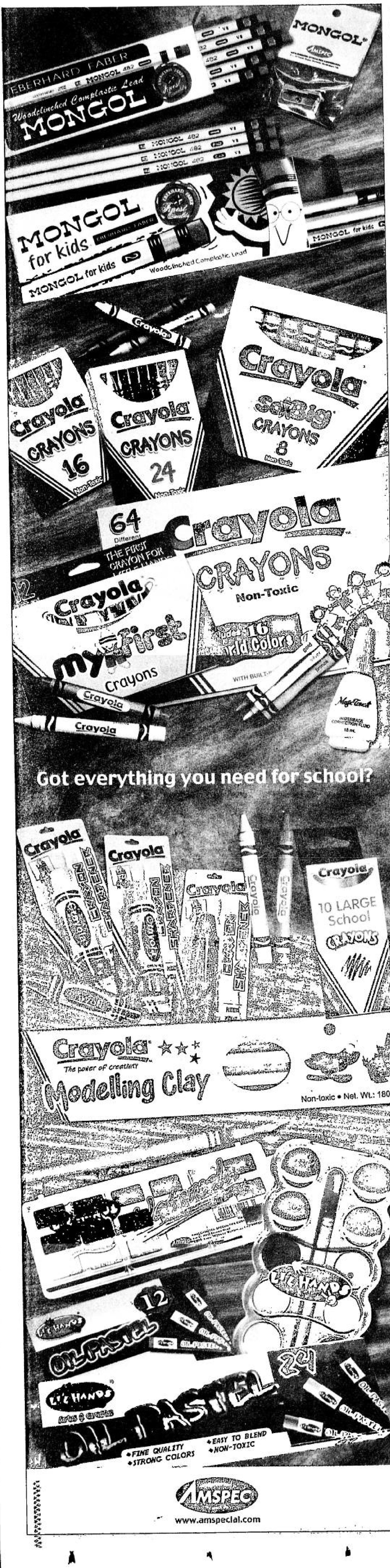
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# Military court chides Garcia for delaying trial

**By Dona Z. Pazzibugan**

A MILITARY tribunal yesterday castigated retired Maj. Gen. Carlos Garcia for delaying his trial.

The head of the court martial, Lt. Gen. Emmanuel Teodosio, also said that Garcia had not made "substantial progress" in his defense.

Garcia, former Armed Forces chief comptroller, was charged with conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman, for his undeclared wealth and his being a permanent resident of the US.

The military court issued the rebuke after it granted a motion by Garcia's lawyers to postpone yesterday's hearing.

Garcia showed up but his civilian lawyers, former judge Jose Bautista and Constantino de Jesus, were at a hearing on Garcia's forfeiture case before the Sandiganbayan.

"We view with concern the seemingly much delay in the proceedings," Teodosio, the court president, said. "We've been here for so long but we're not substantially progressing." He reminded defense lawyers to observe the hearing dates set in advance.

Garcia had presented six witnesses, but the five-member court was apparently still waiting for Garcia to get to the heart of the case.

"We advise the defense to be more direct in its presentation of the case so next hearing we'll make more headway with the proceedings," Teodosio said.

GARCIA on his way to trial

Military defense counsel Lt. Col. Antonio Doronila later denied to reporters that they had caused the delay.

He said Bautista and De Jesus asked for postponement the previous day, but Teodosio did not act upon it.

When he told the court that the "civilian case is more severe," the court law member, Col. Caridad Aguilar rebuked him. "You should know better," she told him.

Col. Al Perreras, chief military prosecutor, said Garcia's lawyers were nitpicking on "technicalities."

"As far as the prosecution is concerned, they're not controverting what was said in the charge sheet. That's what the court is waiting for," he said in an interview.

But he said they understood that Garcia's lawyers had to go to the Sandiganbayan.

The trial began last Nov. 17.

The prosecution presented records of sizable bank accounts and luxury vehicles under Garcia's name and his wife's, his statements of assets and liabilities and records of his US immigrant status.

Garcia's lawyers have called the staff of former AFP chief of staff Gen. Narciso Abaya and military investigators to testify on the memos ordering a court martial for Garcia.

His lawyers said Abaya rushed the filing of charges before he retired on June 29 last year.

Garcia's lawyers said they wanted to put Abaya on the witness stand, which prosecutors said they would oppose.

On Wednesday, the AFP turned over Garcia to the Sandiganbayan after an arrest warrant was issued.

Garcia had no complaints about his new detention quarters at the PNP headquarters in Camp Crame, according to his lawyer Doronila.

"In fact, maybe it's much better that he's there," he added.

# Lawyers want ex-general moved to V. Luna

**By Nelson F. Flores**

THE LAWYERS of retired armed forces comptroller Maj. Gen. Carlos, Garcia citing health reasons, yesterday asked the Sandiganbayan to have him transferred from Camp Crame Center to the V. Luna Medical Center.

To bolster their claim, Garcia's lawyers - retired Makati Regional Trial Court Judge Jose Bautista and Constantino de Jesus - presented Dr. Noel Gaurano, a pulmonologist, before the members of the anti-graft court's Second Division presided over by Justice Edilberto Sandoval where the 303 million plunder case of Garcia are being heard.

Gaurano testified that Garcia is suffering from an illness known as apnea, a form of sleeping disorder, which affects the airflow in the nose and mouth. He also said that treatment for apnea include weight reduction, exercise, smoking avoidance and by taking medicines that controls hypertension.

"Apnea complicated by hypertensive cardio-vascular disease, if not corrected could also be life threatening," Gaurano said.

He noted that a spacious-environment like a hospital or, if possible, a hotel is desirable for Garcia.

Bautista said apnea can "trigger and deprive the blood of oxygen and increase the amount of carbon dioxide."

Special Prosecutor Dennis Villa-Ignacio said Apnea is a sleep disorder common to almost everybody including children. He said it could be treated without necessitating confinement in a hospital.

"It could even be treated by the patient itself," Villa-Ignacio said.

On Thursday, Garcia was rushed to the PNP Hospital after complaining of difficulty in breathing but was sent back to his cell after medical examinations showed no signs of life threatening illness.

The Sandiganbayan last Wednesday ordered Garcia's transfer of custody from the Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines to the PNP Headquarters in Camp Crame after his lawyers failed to convince the court of the necessity of his continued stay at the ISAFP headquarters.

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# GMA: I feel your pain, too

From page A1

of mourning" on June 11 to bring the "sorry state" of the country to Malacañang's attention.

But Iñiguez, one of three Catholic bishops serving as KME senior advisers, stressed that he was not calling for the President's ouster.

He said the KME was in fact helping her stay in power by urging her to do something "so we can reverse" the worsening political and economic situation.

## Oil prices

"Tough decisions to save the economy and the rise of oil prices beyond our call have taken their toll on the President's ratings," Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye said in a statement.

But he said the Palace was confident that the ratings had "bottomed out," and that "rising confidence in the economy will reverse the trend as we gain more investments, jobs and revenues to support our basic services."

Interviewed over dzMM radio, Bunye said high oil prices in the world market had caused local oil prices to go up as well.

He said this was something beyond the control of the government, which could only mitigate the impact of the high prices.

Still, he pointed out, the price of oil in the world market was now dropping. He said he expected this trend to continue.

## Revenue measures

Bunye said Ms Arroyo's resolve to get Congress to pass vital revenue measures such as the Expanded Value-Added Tax law also helped bring down her rating.

He said the debate that accompanied the deliberations over these tax measures had been "contentious, controversial and unpopular."

"But the President had to do this in order to fix the economy," he said, adding:

"The economic reforms may be unpopular, but these are needed. And if the President did not push for them, then the country's economic condition could turn for the worse in three to five years."

In Benguet, Ms Arroyo said the revenue-generating measures would later help the government finance infrastructure development, among others.

She said this was why she was hoping that one day the country would no longer rely on foreign funds.

But House Minority Leader Francis Escudero said the administration had only itself to blame for Ms Arroyo's dismal rating because it did not listen to public opposition to its unpopular policies, like the expanded VAT.

"When we opposed this, they said we were just politicking and were out to destabilize the government ... But it is the people who come to us and complain that the administration's governance is not in accordance with their will," he said in Manila.

Malacañang accused Bishop Iñiguez and his fellow KME advisers, Bishops Julio Xavier Labayen and Antonio Tobias, of destabilizing the administration when they publicly called for drastic economic reforms on Labor Day.

The three bishops—considered moderates among the Catholic clergy—were accused along with certain personalities in the opposition.

Iñiguez said that shortly afterwards, he had a chance to air his sentiments to the President in a brief phone conversation arranged by a friend.

"I assured her that we're not after her ouster, that our concern, really, was to correct the situation," he said.

He recalled that Ms Arroyo sounded "approving" over the phone. But he said he had noticed no change in her governance.

## 'More reason to mourn'

For the KME, "there is much more reason to mourn than to celebrate" on Independence Day.

"We're not even a nation-state anymore," Bishop Labayen lamented. "We don't have our own autonomy, and that includes the political [sector] too. We are beholden to the global system ... [W]e are coopted by it. And that's the reason there is some mourning: because we have lost our so-called independence or autonomy as a nation."

Labayen and his peers want a stop to the foreign debt servicing that has forced the government to come up with new tax measures such as the expanded VAT.

"The essence of national debt today must be understood," the KME said in a paper. "Why must we pay those debts when Argentina now is a successful case of the moral wisdom of repudiating our national debt?"

Various opinions were aired regarding the steep drop in the President's performance rating.

"The decline now seems irreversible because there is no meaningful change in her administration's policies," said Renato Reyes Jr., secretary general of the militant Bagong Alyansang Makabayan.

Reyes said Bayan expected a further decline in Ms Arroyo's rating with the impending hike in power rates, the expanded VAT, and the yet unresolved problems of graft and corruption.

"[Ms Arroyo] may be nearing the end, and she knows it," he said.

Anakpawis Rep. Rafael Mariano said Ms Arroyo's dismal rating was a "crystal-clear sign" of her "extreme political isolation" from the people and showed her "vulnerability" to being "unseated from power."

## The government, too

Antipolo Rep. Ronaldo Puno said it was the whole government that should worry about the plunge in Ms Arroyo's rating.

Puno, leader of the pro-administration party Kabalikat ng Malayang Pilipino (Kampi), said at a press conference in Quezon City that the task of ensuring the administration's political stability should not solely rest on the President's shoulders.

But Albay Rep. Joey Salceda said the "jueteng" scandal and worsening unemployment problem contributed largely.

"We recognize ... unemployment as a major problem because the President promised 8-10 million jobs," Salceda said at the weekly Rembrandt news forum.

He noted that it was already halfway through the year but the government had produced only 87,000 jobs, a far cry from the 1.8 million generated last year. *With reports from Philip C. Tubeza, Michael Lim Ubac and Norman Bordadora*

## *Black ribbons for GMA*

THE KILUSANG Makabansang Ekonomiya (KME) yesterday urged the people to wear black ribbons and black shirts daily beginning today to signify their indignation toward President Macapagal-Arroyo's governance.

Church bells will toll during the hour of the Divine Mercy at 3 p.m. daily as part of the mourning, said KME chair Jimmy Regalario.

The black campaign will culminate in a mass action at 2 p.m. on June 11, the eve of Independence Day.

The June 11 program has drawn support from Bishops Rolando Tirona of the prelature of Infanta and Vicente Navarra of Bacolod, Regalario said.

He said the protest action would be "open to everybody," including militant groups and members of the political opposition who share the KME's observations on the economy.

"But there would be no accusations, no agitation," he said. "The program will be purely educational."

---

## SO THE TRUTH MAY BE KNOWN on the OWWA-Medicare issue

*In light of recent accusations of certain OFW groups that the P530 million in OWWA-Medicare funds transferred to PhilHealth were misused, we would like to assure OFWs and their families, as well as the reading public, that not a single cent of the said funds was mismanaged.*

Contrary to what these OFW groups claim, the funds were transferred to us **starting March 2005**. The first tranche worth P300M was transferred on March 16 and the second and final tranche worth P230M was transferred on April 15. The total amount transferred was actuarially determined and both the OWWA and PhilHealth agreed that this was the amount needed to pay for the claims of OFWs for one year. As such, there is absolutely no truth to the rumor that the said amount was moved to us prior to last year's elections.

In addition, the Medicare fund from OWWA is intact, and securely placed in government securities such as special savings deposits (SSDs) and Treasury Bills in government depository banks. These are used to pay for the medical care claims of OFWs and their families as well as for the salaries of about 92 OWWA personnel who joined PhilHealth upon the turnover of the program function. To date, we have paid close to P6 million for the medical care claims of OFWs and their families.

As guardians of the health insurance funds, we are and we will continue to exercise prudence in its management, to make sure that our member-OFWs and their families are able to avail themselves of the hospitalization benefits whenever and wherever they need these. After all, this is our commitment to the public we serve.

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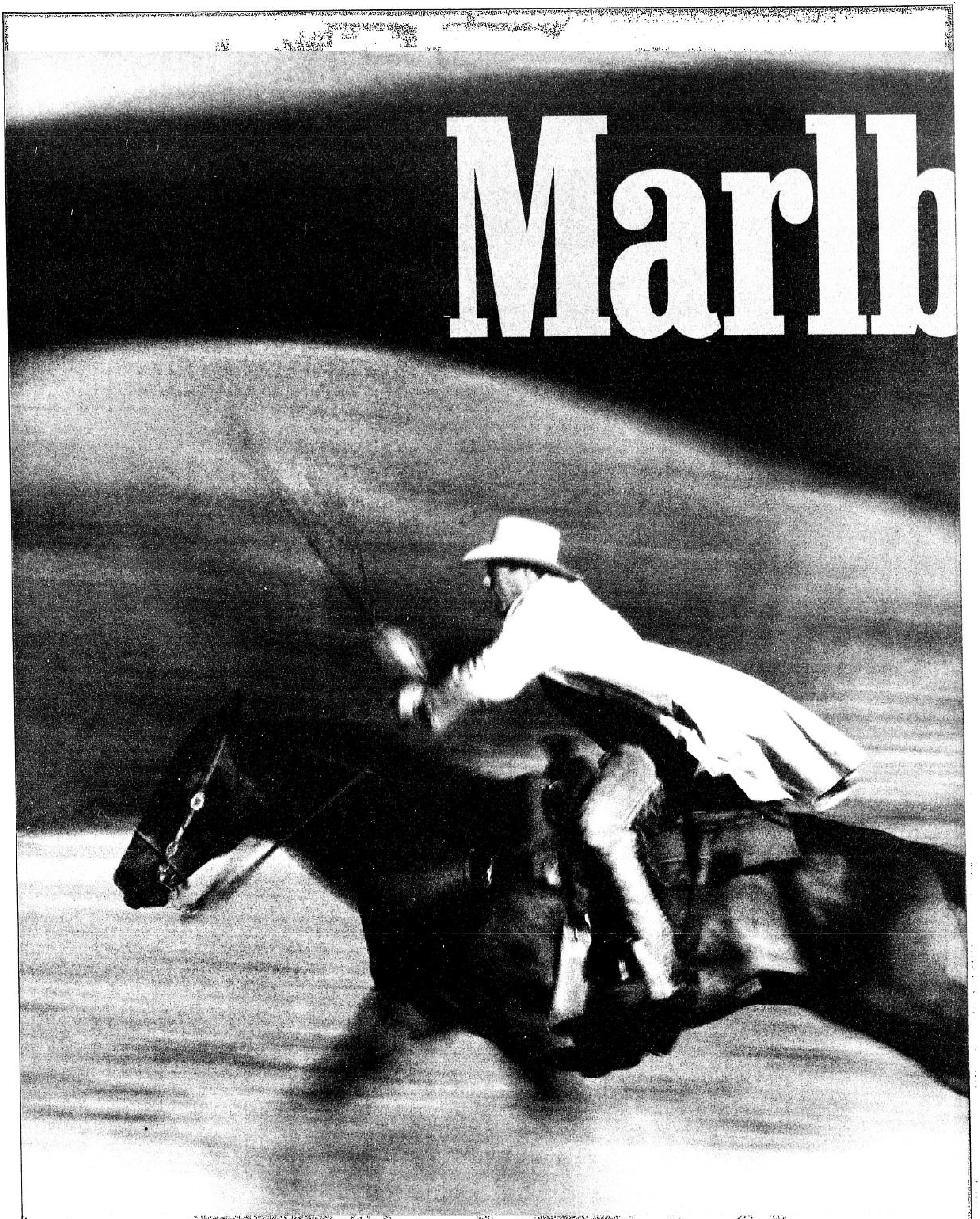

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# The WORLD

Editor **Luverne B. Gueco**

# Crisis seen threatening EU's role on world stage

**By Leon Bruneau**

**BRUSSELS—Growing uncertainty over the EU's future, as its leaders grapple for a way forward after twin blows to its constitution, risks severely damaging the bloc's credibility on the world stage, analysts say.**

"Outside Europe, more than inside Europe, doubt is setting in, uncertainty reins," noted Luxembourg prime minister and currently EU president Jean-Claude Juncker after Dutch voters roundly rejected the constitution on Wednesday.

"It's a dangerous situation that is by the way weakening and risks further weakening the influence of the European Union's global policies," he said.

The "no" votes in France and the Netherlands against the text, aimed at making the expanding Union more administratively efficient, come at a time when the EU's foreign policy ambitions have never been higher.

The bloc has played a key role in the Iran nuclear standoff, is prodding forward Israel and the Palestinians, massively backs the Afghan authorities, and is helping hold the Balkans together after the wars in the 1990s.

It is also moving into new territory in helping resolve the conflict in Sudan's Darfur region and will host a major international conference on Iraq in a few weeks.

And as leaders in the 25-member Union cast about despairingly for another way forward now that the charter appears a dead letter, the doubt even seeped in at the high-profile EU summit with the United States.

US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, speaking on Thursday after the summit with a "troika" of senior EU officials, sought to play down the impact of the votes but hinted that the nature of their future ties is unclear.

"We understand that this has been a difficult period and that there will be some period of reflection going forward," Rice said. "But we continue to hope for an outward-looking Europe, not an inward-looking one."

**ENVIRONMENT DAY** REUTERS

**A Jordanian girl plays in one of the many public parks spread throughout the desert kingdom during World Environment Day in Amman June 3. World Environment Day is sponsored by the United Nations Environment Program and is celebrated internationally.**

She reaffirmed US support for a strong Europe and said the trans-Atlantic allies had many issues before them. "We are confident that this partnership will continue to grow and to be put to use in the service of great goals."

Luxembourg Foreign Minister Jean Asselborn conceded that, following the French and Dutch voters, "Europe is a little bit hesitating" after decades of integration. "Europe is not denied, not rejected by these two countries.

"But it seems to be misunderstood," he added.

US commentators agreed that the EU turmoil will inevitably impact on its international relations.

"It's going to be difficult for it (the EU) to serve as a useful partner for the United States going forward," said Robin Niblett of the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington. *AFP*

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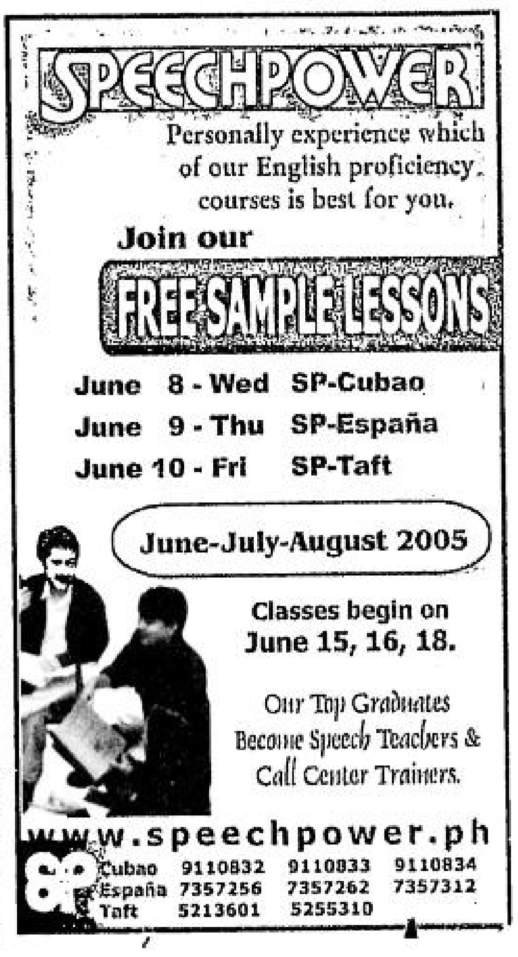
# *EU may scrap all referendums*

LISBON—EU leaders may decide to scrap all other planned referendums on the bloc's new constitution during their summit later this month in the wake of its rejection by voters in France and the Netherlands, Portuguese Foreign Minister Diogo Freitas do Amaral has said.

"What may happen at the next European Council is that the leaders of the 25 member states could conclude that it would be a useless and even painful exercise if it appeared that successive referendums would produce more 'no' results," he told state television RTP late Thursday.

The referendums could either be temporarily suspended to give time for a period of reelection or "the whole process could be terminated," he added.

"We can't be blind to reality and we can't pretend that nothing happened in France and the Netherlands, that nothing could happen with the British government. We can't act like an ostrich," said Freitas. *AFP*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**VIETNAM CATHOLICS**
Worshippers gather for a Sunday Mass at Phat Diem Cathedral, May 22 in the Vietnam province of Ninh Binh. Up to 10 percent of Vietnam's 82 million population are Catholics. AFP

# Suicide bombings, shootings killed 825 since Iraq gov't formed

BAGHDAD, Iraq—Ten Iraqis were killed in an overnight suicide bombing in a remote village north of Baghdad, officials said Friday, taking the number of people killed during a bloody day of violence in Iraq to almost 50.

Thursday's carnage claimed the lives of at least 49 people, including more than 30 in four suicide bombings across the country's north and a Shiite cleric in the southern city of Basra.

At least 825 people, including US forces, have been killed since the new Shiite-led government was announced April 28, underscoring the fragility of this country's reconstruction.

Iraq's Interior Minister Bayan Jabr on Thursday claimed the government offensive seeking to root out rebels in Baghdad had scored big gains, saying this week's sweep by Iraqi soldiers and police captured 700 suspected insurgents and killed 28 militants.

But the incessant violence launched by a host of militants, from Islamic extremists to Saddam Hussein loyalists, highlights how far security authorities need to go to stop the killings.

Early Friday, gunmen killed Razzouq Mohammed Ibrahim, an Iraqi contractor in charge of renovating a mosque in western Samarra, and stole his car, police Lt. Qassim Mohammed said.

Two Iraqi civilians, including a child, were killed when their car swerved into a US Bradley fighting vehicle near Khalis, 80 kilometers north of Baghdad, early Friday, the US military said.

Late Thursday, a suicide car bomber targeted a home where a group of people had gathered, killing at least 10 Iraqis and wounding 10 more in Saud, a remote village near Balad which is 80 kilometers north of Baghdad, US military, Iraqi police and hospital officials said Friday. No further details were immediately available.

Earlier in Tuz Khormato, a popular highway stop 89 km south of the oil-rich town of Kirkuk, a suicide car bomber targeted bodyguards for Iraq's Kurdish deputy prime minister as they ate at a restaurant. The blast killed 12 people.

Another suicide car bomber trying to attack a convoy of civilian contract workers in Kirkuk killed a young boy and three other Iraqi bystanders and wounded 11.

Four people were killed and four others wounded by a suicide car bombing in Baqouba, about 60 km northeast of Baghdad, including a deputy provincial council leader. In the northern city of Mosul, two parked motorcycles rigged with bombs blew up near a coffee shop, killing five Iraqis and wounding 13.

In the capital, men in three speeding cars sprayed gunfire into a crowded market in the northern neighborhood of Hurriyah, killing nine people, the interior and defense ministries said. Two other Baghdad attacks killed four people and injured three.

Gunmen shot dead Shiite cleric Ali Abdul Hussein outside his home in Basra, 550 km southeast of Baghdad, said police Capt. Mushtaq Taleeb. At least 10 Shiite and Sunni clerics have been killed in the latest surge in violence. AP

# New 'Deep Throat' needed for Iraq, says Nixon's rival

WASHINGTON—The US media need a modern-day "Deep Throat" within the administration of President George W. Bush to reveal how America was "misled" on Iraq, former presidential contender George McGovern said Thursday.

"We need someone like that who is highly placed to tell us what's really going on. We know that we were misled on Iraq," McGovern told Fox News Radio.

McGovern, a former senator, unsuccessfully ran against Richard Nixon for the White House in 1972.

Deep Throat, revealed this week as former FBI assistant director Mark Felt, acted as a source to The Washington Post newspaper, helping to bring down Nixon's presidency over the Watergate scandal in 1974.

"I wish there were somebody of the Deep Throat time in this administration who are aware of what's going on," McGovern told Fox News Radio.

"This war in Iraq, in my opinion is worse than anything Nixon did. I think Nixon deserved to be expelled from office in view of the cover-up that he carried on and the laws that he violated.

"But we have an administration in power now that led us to a war that is internationally illegal; it's a war that we are fighting with a country that has no threat to us that has nothing to do with the 9-11 attacks.

McGovern said Nixon was undoubtedly "tricky," but said of Bush: "This man claims to be Christian, following the will of God, and then he misleads the whole nation on a totally fraudulent enterprise in Iraq that we should have never been attached to." AFP

# Al-Qaida hand seen in Pakistan, Afghan bloodshed

ISLAMABAD—Authorities see al-Qaida links in suicide attacks that killed 44 people in Pakistan and Afghanistan in the past week that appeared aimed at showing Osama bin Laden's network remains a potent force.

But officials and analysts say they have yet to find evidence the bombings were coordinated by a central figure, least of all by Bin Laden himself.

On Wednesday, a suicide bomber detonated explosives in a mosque in the Afghan city of Kandahar as mourners gathered to pay respects to assassinated anti-Taliban cleric Abdullah Fayaz.

It was the first ever suicide attack on a mosque in Afghanistan. It came two days after a suicide attack on a minority Shiite Muslim mosque in Karachi in neighboring Pakistan and five days after a similar attack on a Muslim festival in the Pakistani capital, Islamabad.

Pakistani editor and commentator Najam Sethi said the attacks were clearly aimed at destabilizing Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf and Afghan President Hamid Karzai, two of President George W. Bush's main allies in his global war on terrorism.

"It's a backlash against the campaign against al-Qaida and political Islam in Afghanistan and Pakistan under the aegis of the United States," he said.

"I don't think these are incidents without any relationship," he said. "But it's not that some supreme leader is coordinating all these attacks. This does not mean Osama bin Laden is orchestrating all these attacks."

The governor of Afghanistan's Kandahar province, Gul Agha Sherzai, blamed al-Qaida for the blast there and said the dead bomber appeared to be an Arab.

Pakistani intelligence officials said the attacks in Pakistan both appeared to be the work of Lashkar-e-Jhangvi, a militant group with close links to al-Qaida.

The violence followed the arrest in Pakistan last month of Abu Faraj Farj al Liby, Libyan US counterterrorism agents say became al-Qaida's third-most important figure two years ago.

A Pakistan intelligence official said there was suspicion al-Qaida was trying to show it was still a threat after Musharraf said recently al-Qaida's back had been broken. Reuters

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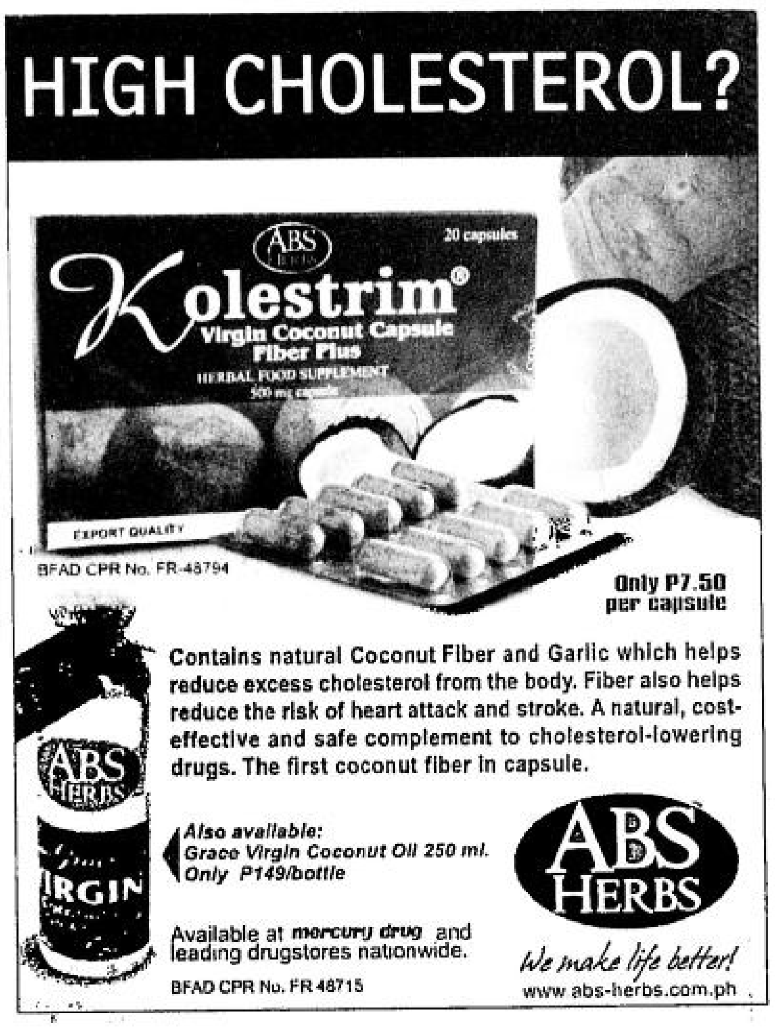

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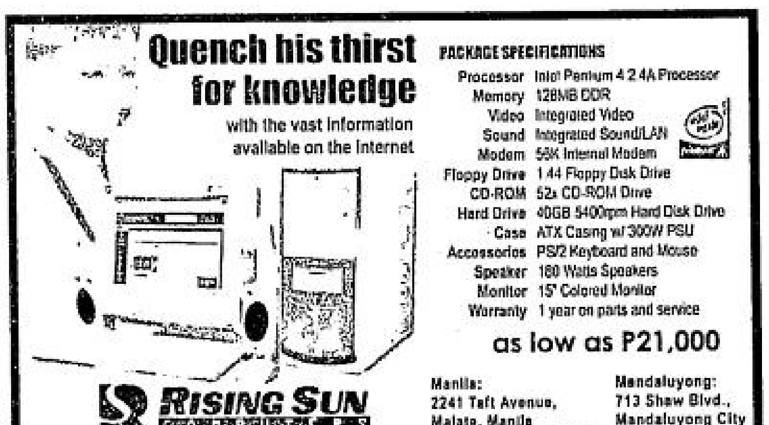

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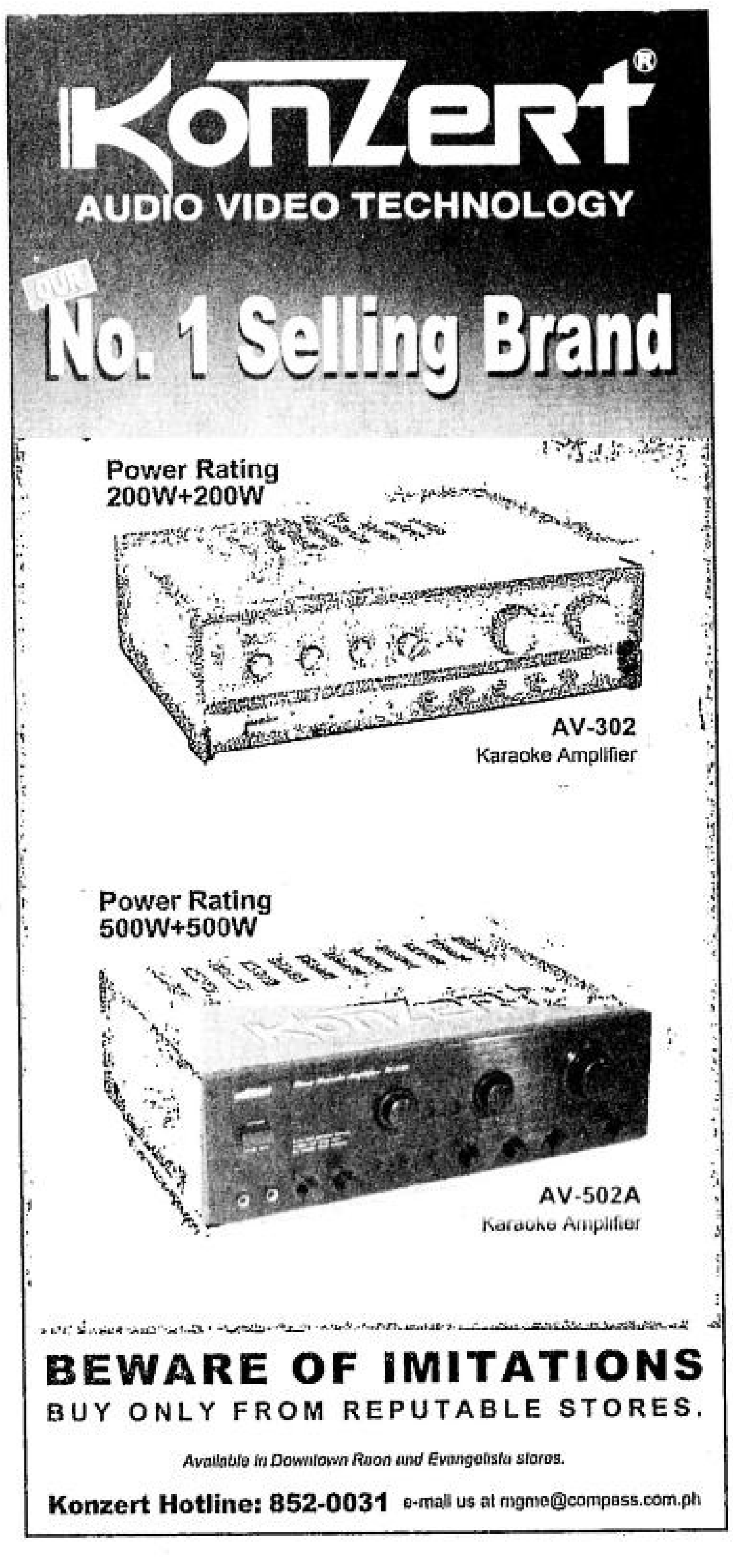

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# Israeli commandos admit following order to do 'an eye for an eye' killings

JERUSALEM—Israeli commandos killed eight Palestinian policemen in "eye for an eye" shootings three years ago that were ordered to avenge comrades slain in an ambush on an army checkpoint in the West Bank, a newspaper said on Friday.

The report in the Maariv Daily, confirmed by senior Israeli security sources, was the latest public challenge to the Jewish state's official insistence that its forces have abided by a strict code of ethics in battling a Palestinian uprising.

After gunmen from the Palestinian faction Fatah killed six soldiers at a checkpoint outside the West Bank city of Ramallah on Feb. 19, 2002, Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon approved stepping up the scale and variety of retaliations.

"The feeling was that this would be 'an eye for an eye'," an ex-soldier who took part in the shooting spree three years ago told Maariv.

Eighteen Palestinians were killed in various retaliatory attacks, including eight policemen shot while manning their checkpoints near Ramallah and Nablus, another West Bank city.

"'We are going to liquidate Palestinian policemen at a checkpoint in revenge for our six soldiers that they killed'," the ex-commando quoted his commander as ordering the troops.

At one of three checkpoints raided the Palestinians managed to return fire, but caused no Israeli casualties, Maariv said.

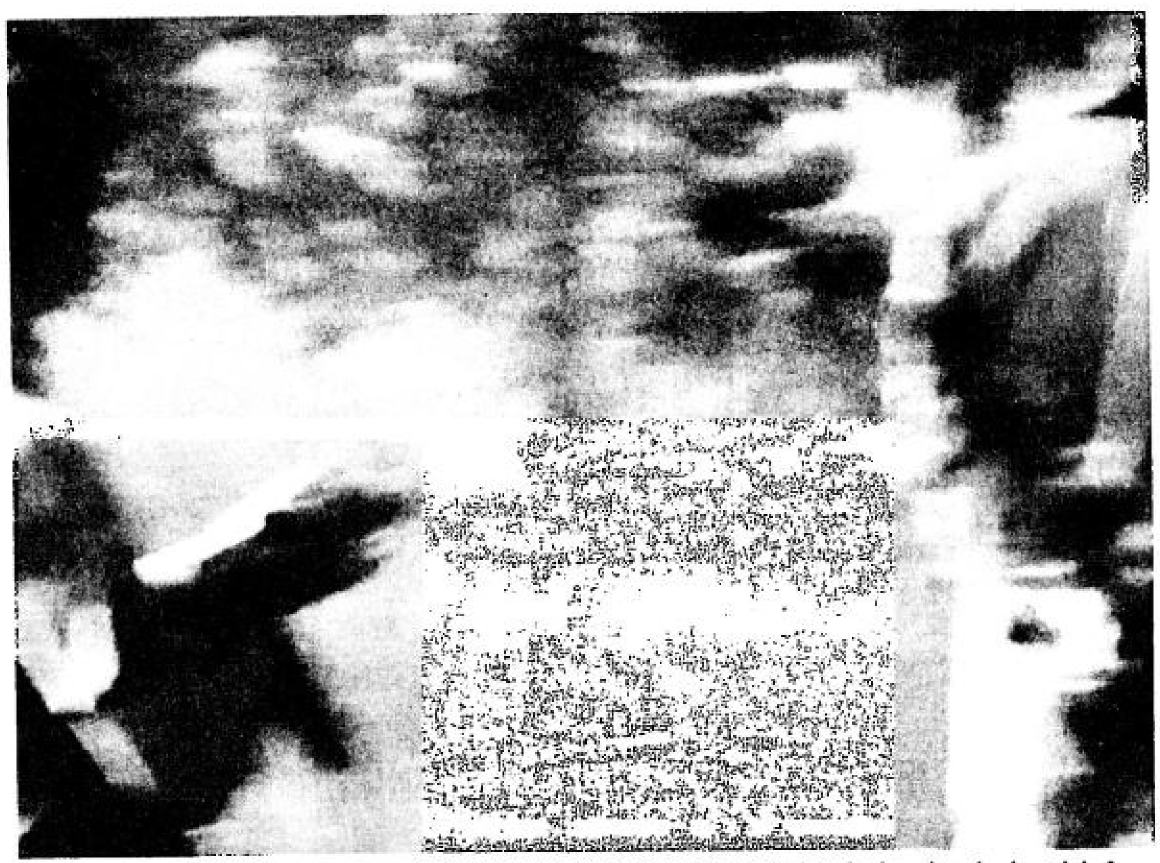
"The moment we knew we were going to eliminate them, we no longer saw them as human," another former commando said.

Maariv's interviewees, whose names were withheld for what the newspaper called legal reasons, said they decided to come forward as part of "Breaking the Silence," a campaign by former soldiers to expose alleged Israeli abuse of Palestinians.

The army said in a statement in response to the Maariv report that its forces attacked "checkpoints manned by Palestinian policemen who facilitated the passage and actively assisted terrorists." The Palestinian Authority, which at the time denied that members of its security forces were complicit in attacks on Israelis, has since acknowledged some moonlighted as militants.

Reprisals have long loomed large in Israel's strategic planning, beginning in the 1950s when it answered cross-border raids by Arab irregulars in kind. After 11 Israeli athletes were killed by Palestinian gunmen during the 1972 Munich Olympics, Israel sent agents to assassinate that attack's masterminds. *Reuters*

# Sickening Srebrenica video brings arrests of 8 Serb militiamen



**THIS** image taken from a video introduced by the prosecution June 1 during the hearings in the trial of former President Slododan Milosevic at the UN court in the Hague, Netherlands, purports to show a member of the Serbian paramilitary unit known as the Scorpions shooting a Bosnian Muslim civilian prisoner of Pale in 1995. AP

BELGRADE—A sickening video of Serb paramilitary soldiers in the act of murdering six Bosnian Muslim youths near Srebrenica in 1995 sobered Serbia on Thursday and led to the immediate arrest of eight suspects.

Prime Minister Vojislav Kostunica said the arrests were ordered after the country was shown a "brutal, callous and disgraceful crime against civilians," in a 10-year-old video that came to light this week.

President Boris Tadic went on national television to tell Serbs the pictures were proof of the "monstrous" crimes committed in Serbia's name during the Yugoslav wars—crimes for which many senior Serbs are already convicted or on trial by The Hague tribunal. "Those seen in these pictures committing murder were free men until yesterday. They were walking our streets," a visibly shaken Tadic said on state television. They must face justice, he added.

The graphic film was shot near the town whose name now recalls the worst massacre in Europe since World War II, in which 8,000 Muslim men and boys were killed over several days and their bodies bulldozed into mass graves.

It was shown by the prosecution during the war crimes trial of former Serbian autocrat Slobodan Milosevic in The Hague on Wednesday.

It was the first such graphic material from the massacre in Srebrenica to be shown in Serbia, where over half of the population refuses to believe the massacre even took place, according to a poll in May.

It began with a Serb Orthodox priest blessing the camouflaged paramilitary troops in a boot camp in Bosnia.

The grim scenes of battered and terrified young men going to their deaths were later broadcast on the evening news by at least two Serbian television channels, including state television RTS.

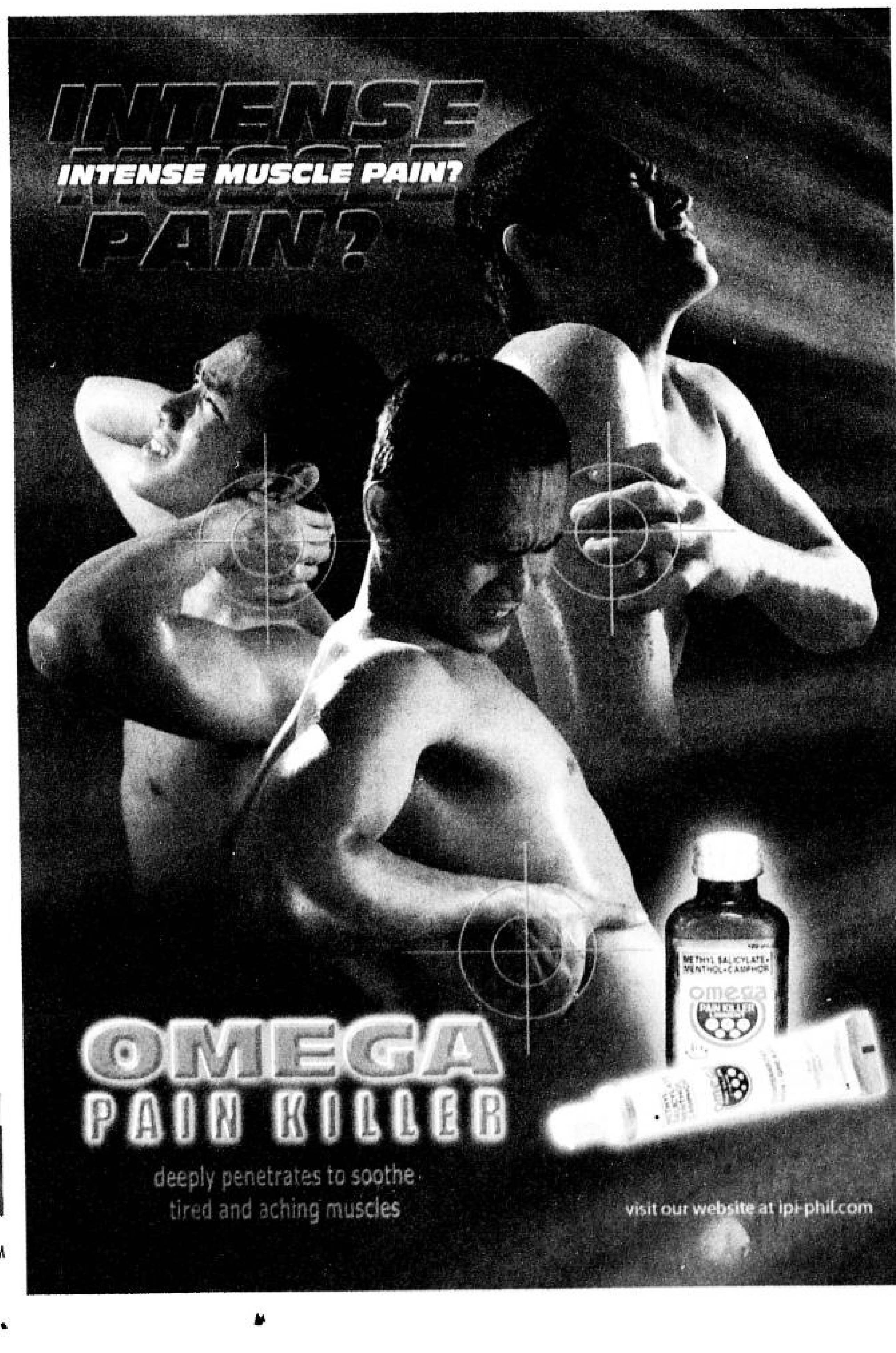
Tadic said he was ready to go to Srebrenica in July on the 10th anniversary of the massacre.

Srebrenica was a United Nations-designated "safe area" in 1995, but it was overrun by Bosnian Serb forces who pushed lightly armed Dutch troops aside. Its starving population was sorted out for execution and the males were led away.

The prime suspects in the Srebrenica massacre are Bosnian Serb commander Ratko Mladic and his political leader Radovan Karadzic. The United Nations war crimes court is demanding their arrest before Bosnia has to face the Srebrenica massacre, but there are no signs that the pair are any closer to capture.

They are still on the run almost 10 years after it occurred.

Their handover to The Hague is the main condition for Serbia and Bosnia to be allowed to make progress in their ties with the European Union and Nato. *Reuters*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# First man jailed under new Canada sex tourism law

VANCOUVER—Shaking and distraught, a local hotel worker was sentenced Thursday to 10 years in jail for sex crimes against Cambodian children and assaults on prostitutes here, in the first such prosecution under a new Canadian law targeting foreign sex tourism.

Donald Bakker pled guilty to a total of 10 sex crimes. He had admitted to crimes against seven child sex slaves during a 2003 trip to Cambodia, as well as to three violent assaults on women prostitutes in this western Canadian metropolis.

A judge sentenced Bakker, 41, a balding married father of one daughter, to a total of 10 years behind bars.

The Cambodian girls were aged seven to 12, lived in Svay Pak, Cambodia, and were enslaved in that country's sex tourism industry, prosecution spokesperson Stan Lowe told AFP.

Only some of the children involved, however, were identified through a joint investigation by Canadian authorities and the human rights organization International Justice Mission.

"In my experience both with the US Department of Justice and with (the nongovernmental organization), I have never been involved in a case involving such savagery against children so young," International Justice Mission vice president Sharon Cohn said in a statement from the group's office in Washington, D.C.

The case began in this port city after police received a call on December 3, 2003, about a naked woman screaming in some bushes in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside, an impoverished neighborhood where scores of drug-addicted women work as prostitutes.

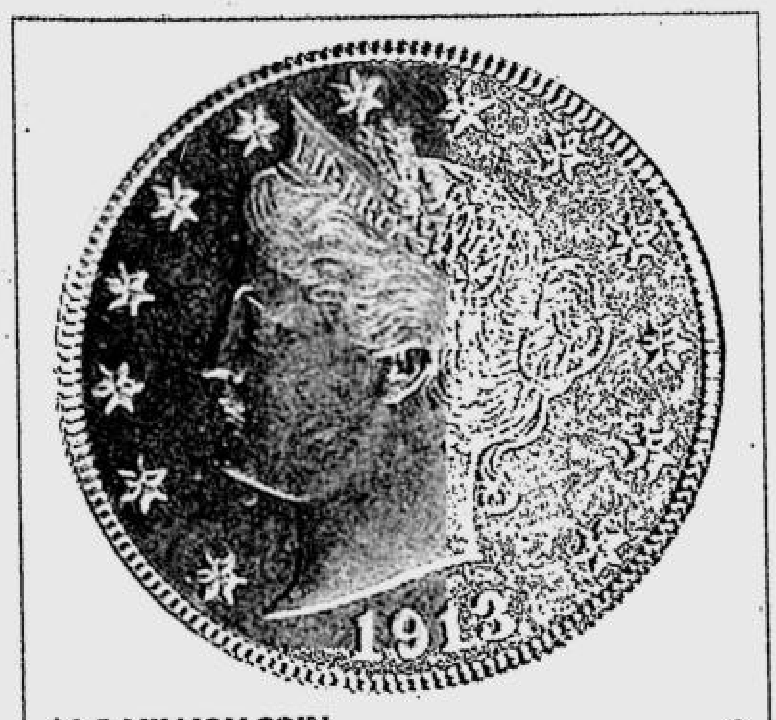
Police found Bakker with a crying, distressed woman who told them she had had a "bad date."

They arrested the hotel worker for sexual assault, and seized video tapes he was carrying that showed him in violent sexual encounters with the woman and other prostitutes.

An ongoing investigation eventually revealed more videos of Bakker engaged in sex acts with young children in a foreign location, according to the authorities.

However, it was a pure coincidence that the children and their location in Cambodia were ever identified.

A Canadian policeman working on the Bakker case was watching a televised report about the International Justice Mission, which works to rescue sex slaves, when he recognized scenery in the report as the same as in some of Bakker's tapes. *AFP*



**$4.5-MILLION COIN** AP

**THIS** undated photo from the Professional Coin Grading Service shows the head of a 1913 US Liberty Head nickel depicting "Miss Liberty." The coin, one of only five known to exist, was sold on Thursday to a coin dealership in New Jersey for $4.15 million, the second-highest price ever reported paid for a rare coin.

# Obesity's health costs more than smoking, drinking

ATHENS—Treating obesity-related disorders costs as much or more than illnesses caused by aging, smoking and problem drinking.

It accounts for 2 percent of the national health expenditure in France and Australia, more than 3 percent in Japan and Portugal and 4 percent in the Netherlands.

A review of research into the economic causes and consequences of obesity presented at the 14th European Congress on Obesity showed that in 2003 up to $96.7 billion was spent on obesity problems in the United States.

"An increase in the prevalence of obesity increases the healthcare costs," Anne Wolf of the University of Virginia School of Medicine said.

"As age increases so do healthcare costs for obesity." Obesity, which is a risk factor for chronic diseases like diabetes, is calculated using the body mass index (BMI)—dividing weight in kilograms by height in meters squared.

A BMI of more than 30 is considered obese, more than 40 is very severe.

The costs of dealing with the consequences of obesity rise along with the severity of the disorder. Being overweight or obese increases the odds of suffering from diabetes, cardiovascular disease and osteoarthritis which are the major reasons for obesity healthcare costs.

"Each unit increase in BMI is associated with a 2.3 percent cost increase," said Wolf.

Although most of the cost analysis for obesity has been done in the United States, where about 30 percent of adults are obese, Wolf said the figures would be comparable for other western countries with rising rates of obesity.

An estimated 10-20 percent of men and 10-25 percent of women in European countries are obese.

Along with hefty health costs, obesity is also associated with a greater loss of productivity and increased rates of disability.

Studies in the United States have shown that about 6 percent of people with a healthy weight are unable to work but the figure rises to 10 percent or more among the obese.

Much of the healthcare spending on obesity-related problems is due to prescription drug costs and more hospital stays.

Obese patients are more likely to require medication for diabetes, cardiovascular disease, pain relief, asthma and other illnesses than people with a normal weight, according to Wolf.

Despite the health and economic consequences of obesity, which affects more than 300 million people worldwide including a growing number of children and adolescents, health experts believe it is one of the most neglected public health issues.

"It is a very serious problem," said Wolf. "The excess costs of obesity are present in all ages."

*Reuters*

# Heat wave in Bangladesh, India, Nepal kills 100

DHAKA—A heat wave sweeping India, Bangladesh and Nepal has killed nearly 100 people over the past two weeks, officials said on Friday.

A third of the people died in northern Bangladesh, mostly women and children from dehydration, heat stroke and diarrhea.

"We are getting reports of several deaths due to heat wave and related diseases almost every day," an official at the Bangladesh health department said, as temperatures touched 43 degrees Celsius (109.4 degrees Fahrenheit).

The weather office in Dhaka said the hot weather will persist for another week until the monsoon rains which are normally due by the middle of June.

Severe heat conditions in the southern Indian state of Andhra Pradesh and in neighboring Orissa have killed at least 55 people, officials in the two states said.

While temperatures have fallen from a high of 45 degrees Celsius in Andhra Pradesh to around 40 degrees, giving a respite to people, they are still on the rise in Orissa with Talcher town registering 48.5 degrees Celsius, a weather official said.

At least five people have died in Nepal from extreme heat, the government said.

An Indian government research body forecast on Thursday dismal rains in the first half of the four-month monsoon season, triggering alarm bells across the region.

*Reuters*

# Cheney attack on Kim may scuttle N. Korea talks

WASHINGTON—The White House on Thursday defended outspoken personal criticism of North Korean leader Kim Jong-il by Vice President Dick Cheney that may have dashed any hopes of bringing Pyongyang back to six-party nuclear talks.

Cheney had called Kim an "irresponsible" leader who did not care for his people and ran a police state, drawing a strong rebuke Thursday from Pyongyang, which slammed the US vice president as a "blood-thirsty beast."

"We are going to call it the way it is," White House spokesperson Scott McClellan told reporters as he backed Cheney's verbal broadside made in an interview on CNN's "Larry King Live" program on Monday.

Charles Pritchard, the special envoy for talks with North Korea during President Bill Clinton's second term in office, said Cheney's volley was "deliberate."

"It certainly had an effect that many in the Bush administration would like to see and that is the cooling of the possibility of the North Koreans returning to the six party talks," he said.

"The chances of the North Koreans coming back to the talks anytime soon are now less likely," Pritchard said.

He noted that Cheney's criticism of the North Korean leader came just two weeks after US special envoy Joseph deTrani held a rare direct meeting with North Koreans asking them to return to the six-party meeting.

## Hostile US policy

North Korea has boycotted the talks—also involving China, Japan, Russia, South Korea and the United States—since the last round a year ago due to what it called hostile US policy.

"The stated policy of the Bush administration is to bring North Korea back to talks and precisely while the North Koreans were considering this, given the message by Ambassador Joseph deTrani on May '13, the Vice-President has essentially trumped that message and it had caused the North Koreans predictably to react the way that they have," Pritchard said.

But North Asia analyst Balbina Hwang of the conservative Heritage Foundation said the White House defense of Cheney did not reinforce any notion that the United States had given up hopes on the six-party talks.

"Cheney's comments were not something new and does not indicate any shift in policy," she said. "And I do not think strong statements labeling North Korea for what it is, is what is preventing North Korea from coming back to the table."

"They do not want to return to the talks because they want to continue with their nuclear weapons program," Hwang said.

McClellan said Pyongyang's harsh words for Cheney were "more of the same kind of bluster we hear from North Korea from time to time."

"All of the parties are saying to North Korea that it needs to abandon its nuclear weapons ambitions. We all share the goal of a nuclear-free (Korean) peninsula. North Korea is the one that must make a strategic decision" if it wants to have better relations with the international community, said McClellan.

"They may make provocative statements, but they will only further isolate themselves from the international community. We've made very clear that we are committed to the six-party talks," he said.

Pyongyang relaunched its nuclear arms program in violation of a 1994 accord. Washington insists Pyongyang has several atomic bombs in its arsenal.

*AFP*

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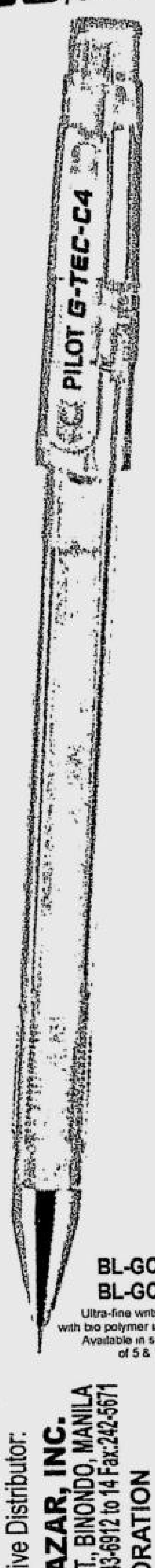

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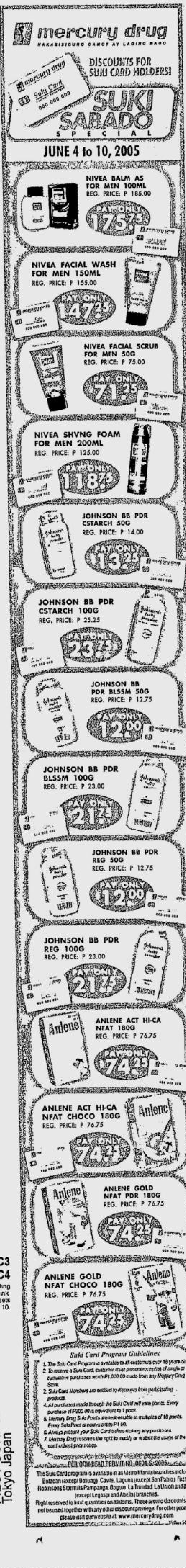

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ISSN 0116-2642 PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER Vol. 19 No. 176

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THE PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER, INC. has its business and editorial offices at
•Chino Roces Ave corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City
•P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City
•Our telephone numbers are 897-8808 connecting all departments
•Editorial Fax 897-4793 / 897-4794 •Advertising 897-4807
•Circulation 527-3342 / 527-3348 / 528-0183 / 528-0186 and 528-0213 / Fax: 528-02-34.

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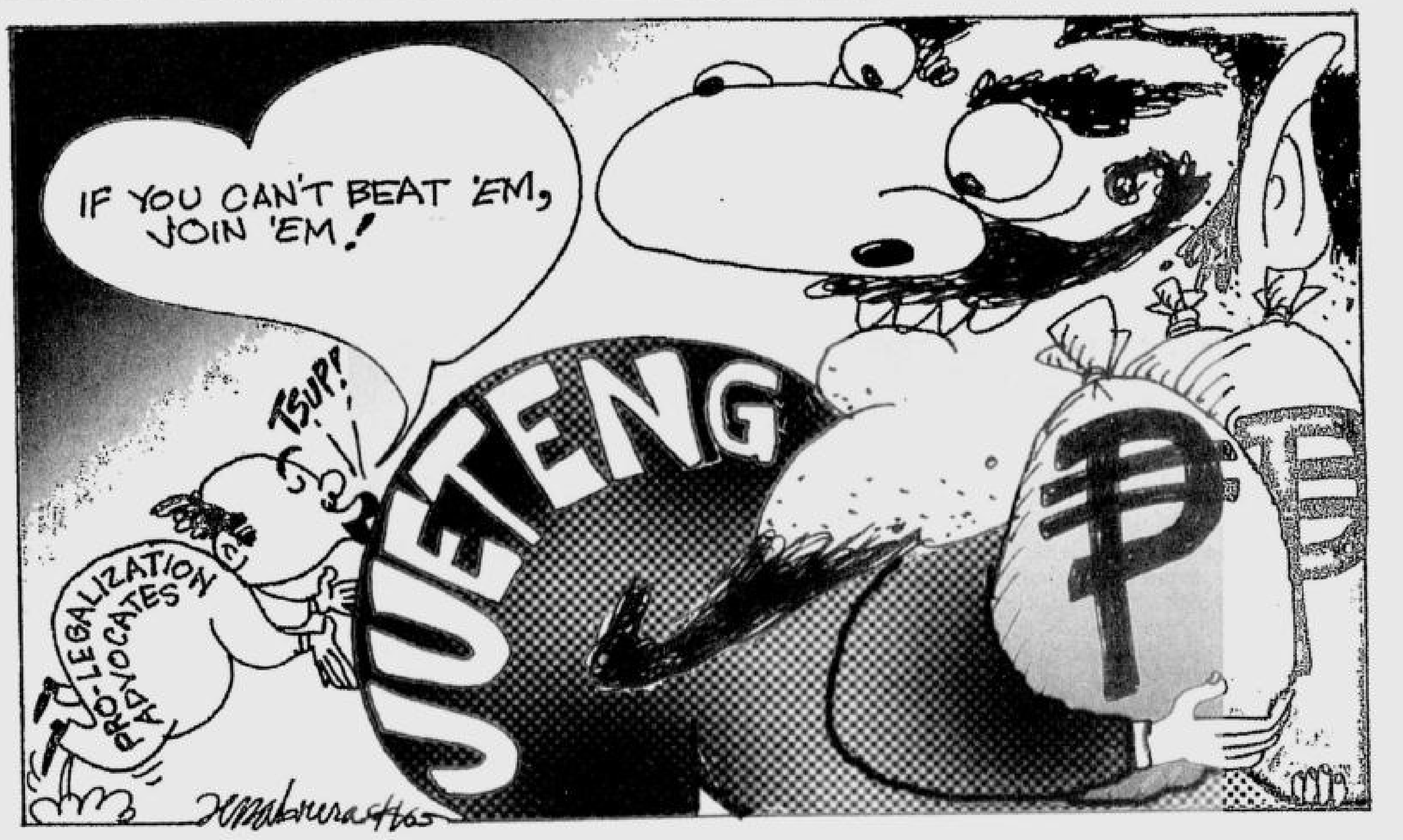

# Cost-sharing

**EDITORIAL**

THE COMMISSION on Higher Education has reported that 10 percent of college students who would have enrolled in private colleges and universities have gone to state and local institutions because of financial difficulties. These students could not anymore afford the prohibitive cost of tuition in private schools, which has been compounded by the financial troubles plaguing the pre-need industry. The phenomenon puts extra pressure on state and local colleges and universities (SCUs and LCUs).

In a way, the pressure may yet compel reforms in SCUs and LCUs. Public institutions of higher learning have no choice but to absorb the exodus because they are, by virtue of their being established by national or local legislation, precisely meant to widen access to education.

The exodus should not be viewed as an argument for the setting up of more SCUs and LCUs. Even the Senate committee on education headed by Sen. Juan Flavier has called for a moratorium on this. Many of these schools have been set up for political reasons. They basically are vote-getters while providing an excuse for legislators and other officials to tap into the national government budget. While they respond to problems of access to education, they hardly answer the need for quality education and sustainability.

In order to deliver quality education, SCUs and LCUs must consider the bottom line: whether or not they have the resources to deliver it. The problem of resources is what compels private schools to increase tuition at the risk of losing students.

If private schools have only tuition with which to mobilize resources, public schools have subsidies and tuition paid as a minimum counterpart by their clientele. It could not be otherwise. No matter how much student activists argue that education is a right of citizens that should be provided free by the state, there's no gainsaying the fact that providing education entails costs that cannot be shouldered alone by the state. And since a college degree is a ticket to gainful living, education may be viewed as an investment that should be made not alone by the state, but also by the person who would ultimately benefit from the investment. Education requires a sharing of costs.

Student activists will always protest any increase in tuition especially in state universities, like the Philippines. But even the premiere state university should have the wherewithal, aside from the shrinking subsidy from the state, to provide sustainable quality education. Its socialized tuition scheme, in fact, hardly even begins to correct the fact that children coming from families that can afford to pay the higher tuition charged by private schools corner a disproportionate share of the freshman slots every year, easing out the children of the poor who are in most need of subsidized education. The highly political call for UP to stop increasing tuition, if not abolish it altogether, is purely politicking.

It is in fact politics that stops UP from delivering sustainable quality education. Its Diliman campus is noted for having buildings for just about every department or program (cottage industry and small and medium-scale businesses, industrial relations, etc.), funded usually with the help of politicians. Many are either half-empty or half-full, depending on how you want to see it, but the campaign to seek funds for new buildings just doesn't seem to end.

But once the buildings are set up, there's hardly any budget for their maintenance. So while new buildings are being constructed left and right in Diliman, the old Arts and Sciences building is decrepit and sagging, its rooms without locks, its toilets plagued by problematic plumbing and its ceilings crashing down in some cases. UP Diliman has achieved the impossible in Philippine education: building a school complex without educational facilities.

Proper resource mobilization and effective use of available resources will enable UP to deliver education that is both quality-driven and sustainable. Effective management will also allow the state education system to allocate more resources to other SCUs such as the Polytechnic University of the Philippines and the Philippine Normal University, which are by and large delivering good education but whose systems are saddled by too many students and too little resources.

# The evils of entertainment

**SEPARATE OPINION**

*Isagani A. Cruz*

THERE is the distressing report of the unusual rise in crime among our youth, including the teenagers and even the younger elements of our society. Their offenses include drug addiction, robbery, physical injuries, rape, lascivious acts, and other moral infractions. So far, murder and plunder have not yet been included in their criminal record, but let us not be hastily thankful for small favors. These offenses may yet top the list of juvenile delinquency if we are not careful.

I recall with regret those honorable years when the youth was regarded as the hope of the nation, the new generation that would deliver the country from the problems their elders had caused and were unable to solve. That hope was not unreasonable because many young leaders before had proved their determination and capacity to forge a better future for our country.

Rizal was only 35 when he was executed at Bagumbayan, Bonifacio organized the Katipunan at the age of 32, and Aguinaldo was not yet 30 when he became the president of the first Philippine Republic. Sergio Osmeña was only 29 when he became Speaker of the Philippine Assembly and so was Manuel L. Quezon, who later led the fight for independence from the United States.

Jose P. Laurel was 31 when, as interior secretary, he clashed with the American governor-general and sparked the Cabinet Crisis of 1923. Wenceslao Vinzons, who headed the Young Philippines together with his contemporary Arturo Tolentino, was at 25 the youngest member of the Constitutional Convention of 1934. Ninoy Aquino Jr. was elected to the Senate in 1967 when he was barely 35.

The Filipino youth was hardly audible during the Twenties and Thirties but did its part in defending our country during the Pacific War and later in resisting the Parity Amendment in 1947. But it was during the years before martial law that it recovered its earlier assertiveness and gave activism a new and influential name. The militancy of the reawakened young men and women, under the leadership of the UP students, was one of the reasons Marcos chose to become a dictator.

The youth was not cowed by the despot and his military cohorts and valiantly answered Padre Florentine's question in Rizal's "El Filibusterismo." But after Edsa I and the restoration of constitutionalism in the country, it relaxed its vigilance against the excesses of the new government. That was when it allowed itself to be again seduced by trivial pleasures. Today, it is mostly concerned with the American Idol, the Star Wars series, and basketball.

The reason for the present insensitiveness of the youth to our nation's woes is entertainment. Serious matters like the corruption in our government, the continuing dissidence, the worsening poverty, the inadequacy of public education, the increasing incompetence of the public service, the hopeless stupidity of the electorate, and other critical problems do not excite or worry our youth today. They would rather watch the movies and television.

And that is the reason for the alarming rise in criminality among the new generation. The culprit that has caused this deterioration of the quality of the young people today is entertainment.

It is undeniable that the theme and major defect of shows in the movies and television today are violence and immorality. There is hardly any film now where gunfire or libido, or both, are not the main ingredients. You don't see many pictures now like the popular ones before that lifted the spirit or at least gave the watcher a sense of satisfaction and well-being. That was what I felt when I saw "How Green Was My Valley" and "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington" and the glittering musicals of Esther Williams and Cyd Charisse. Cary Grant and Fred Astaire never fired a gun or messed up their hair to look macho.

Now the audience prefers those epics that glorify killing like "Braveheart," "The Kingdom of Heaven," and "The Return of the King." "The Revenge of the Sith" earned $58 million on its first day, and in this impoverished land it is showing simultaneously in some hundred movie houses to mostly boys and girls. Sexy pictures are also popular with the young watchers like "Bikini Open," "Pinay Pie" and other movies featuring scantily-clad teenagers as the only attraction. I miss the old pictures like "Anak Dalita," "Kisap Mata" and "Tinimbang Ka Ngunit Kulang," which made sense and not sex or shooting.

Local television is the worst offender with its lewd shows featuring actresses in scanty clothes even if not appropriate to the story and filthy language from the male performers. An unrepentant actor has again been charged with lasciviousness. Some top stars have been criticized for suggestive acts and words that reflect their own private immoral lives. A number of them are living with bigamous partners after their marriages have been canonically but not legally annulled.

It is fitting that the advertisers have taken steps to clean up the entertainment industry for it is on their support that it relies for the shows it is visiting like a deadly virus on the *bakya* crowd. Entertainment today must be sanitized before it envenoms and destroys the youth and the whole society.

# The Synergeia way

**GET REAL**

*Solita Collas-Monsod*

THE START of the school year always brings with it horror stories concerning the education sector. Complaints reach their peak about problems such as the lack of classrooms, buildings, textbooks, teachers, etc.—their poor quality especially—as well the declining share of education in the government budget, the declining per capita expenditure on students. That's the bad news.

But let us focus on some good news, for a change. And that is, that local communities, if they but realize it, have the power to improve the education of their children. What's more, the results can be seen almost immediately; the children are pre-tested and post-tested at the beginning and end of the academic year, respectively.

This is the message of Synergeia, a foundation that has made significant progress, despite its relatively young age (founded in 2002), in improving the academic performance of elementary-school children in the areas in which it operates.

That is not all. In the process, empowerment takes place, not only for the children, who realize there's nothing wrong and everything right with them, but also for parents, who realize that they can have a large say in the priorities of school budgets and be active participants in their child's schooling, and the teachers, who benefit from professional teacher development programs.

What is the track record of the communities which have partnered with Synergeia in school reform programs? Take Naga City, whose mayor, Jess Robredo, sits on the board of Synergeia. In one year, the test scores of its students in the program improved by 17 percentage points in English, by 15 percentage points in Math, and by 15 percentage points in Science.

Naga is not a fluke. The same thing has happened in Lipa, where Mayor Vilma Santos is an enthusiastic participant. In 2004, the percentage of independent readers (those who can answer 5 out of 5 questions testing comprehension) increased from 25 percent to 54 percent, while the percentage of frustrated readers (cannot answer any questions) decreased from 42 percent to 13 percent.

There are other success stories, particularly in reading proficiency.

Considering how young Synergeia is, its progress has been phenomenal. Its Education Governance Program is now being implemented in more than 250 municipalities, with 450,000 children enrolled in a Synergeia reading and mathematics program. This is expected to expand to 19 new areas this year.

What accounts for its success? Fr. Bienvenido Nebres, SJ, who has done a great deal of research on Philippine education (it was from him that I was first made aware of the education crisis in the country), has stated categorically that there are only two factors that explain the difference between a good school and a bad school in the Philippines: a good principal and a supportive local community. Synergeia early on realized that this was indeed the case, and has focused on the second factor and sought to create supportive local communities, using a participatory and community-based approach.

Further, it has learned that a supportive local community doesn't mean merely an abundance of financial resources from the local government. Makati City, for example, is one of the most well endowed with financial resources for education, yet its students rack up some of the lowest scores in the standard achievement tests. Adequate resources are certainly necessary, but not sufficient. You need the active participation of the parents, teachers, and local leaders as well. It is they who set the priorities and the targets.

The best springboard for getting all these, Synergeia finds, is through the local school boards. Hence, the move to "reinvent" them, so that they can be used to mobilize community support for the implementation of school reforms.

What is significant is that any failure of the national government in education doesn't have to spell doom for education reforms as far as resources are concerned. The Special Education Fund Tax (SEF), which is a one percent tax on the assessed value of real properties imposed by local governments to help finance public education, is on the average under-collected (only 54 percent of the potential amounts), and can be very inefficiently used. A proactive school board changes all that, as Bulacan Gov. Josie Cruz will tell you.

What is the first step in mobilizing the loca community? I recently had the opportunity t see how it is done, at the launch of the Synergeia program in Upi, Maguindanao. Abou 600 townsfolk—parents, teachers, schoo nurses, local officials and DepEd administra tors—gathered to participate in their first-eve Education Summit.

When Mayor Ramon Piang reported that 6 percent of Upi students drop out after Grade and, that based on reading proficiency, the are two grades behind, they were aghast. An in workshops, the consensus was that the sur vival rate must be improved to 90 percent, an learning scores should be increased to 90 per cent.

How? Through a two-pronged approach improved learning systems in the subject area (i.e., teacher training, provision of workbooks and strengthened community support by train ing parents to be active participants in thei children's schooling.

I have no doubt whatsoever that Upi chil dren are going to be doing much better i school, thanks to more active parents, bett trained teachers, and enlightened local off cials.

That has got to be good news.

# PNP realities on the ground

**POLITICAL TIDBITS**

*Belinda Olivares-Cunanan*

PROFOUND condolences to the family of Star columnist Teddy Benigno, a pillar of journalism for the past 40 years, who succumbed to cancer yesterday. Like many people, I didn't agree with everything he wrote, especially his dark and rather morbid outlook on the future of the country during his last years. But most of us had nothing but admiration for the singular intensity of his passion when it came to asserting his convictions, which were respected widely, for his obvious love for country. Take your deserved rest, dear colleague.

* * *

The way the Senate hearing on *jueteng* is being muddled, it's easy to see that nothing much will come out of it; at best, the opposition—especially Sen. Panfilo Lacson—who has assumed a high profile here, will shake this administration's equilibrium. NBI Director Reynaldo Wycoco has presented to the media two confessed *jueteng* "fixers" from Albay, who claim that Wilfredo Mayor, the confessed *jueteng* operator and key witness of anti-*jueteng* crusader Archbishop Oscar Cruz, is not a *jueteng* operator, but only a small fixer like themselves. They asserted that Mayor (said to be really a Montemayor) was in fact paid P5 million by a top opposition politician to implicate members of the First Family.

Some people opine that the situation reminds them of the Ador Mawanay and Udong Mahusay spins. Which should warn our lawmakers to be wary of endless inquiries that are just demolition jobs in disguise. The august Senate should have instead concentrated in sustaining the legislative economic reforms it had begun.

* * *

A young man recently admitted to me that his entire public high school education was financed by his job as a *jueteng* collector in Batangas. He also said that his brother-in-law, until lately a *cabo* (one who collects the bets from the first-line collectors and remits his collection to the *bangka*), recently called to say how difficult life has become for the family because all the *jueteng* activities in their town have ground to a halt.

* * *

Last Wednesday, one of the witnesses in the House hearing on *jueteng* was PNP chief Arturo Lomibao. He cited the argument of former PNP Senior Supt. Wally A. Sombrero Jr., now a Manila Times investigative correspondent. In a series of articles titled "The Truth about Jueteng: A prescription in Solving the Present Crisis," Sombrero laid out what he termed the "realities on the ground." He opined that the PNP is not capable of conducting a "sustainable crackdown" on the vice because it doesn't have enough personnel and logistics. To wage a daily "relentless campaign," he said, means that "not a single policeman would be available to solve other crimes," such as robbery, hold-up, rape, murder, drug-pushing and petty crimes happening every day."

* * *

Lomibao told the House committee that Sombrero's research was fairly accurate, and this got the representatives' dander up. Some said it's the PNP's job to go after the *jueteng* operators and that he was just making excuses for his agency's failure. But before the lawmakers are carried away by their self-righteous anger, they should look at the stark reality which they have caused to a large degree, but which they also have the power to remedy because they control the nation's purse. For instance, what about parting with some of their CDFs in order to increase the budget of the PNP?

This columnist invited the PNP chief to our dzRH program (to be aired tomorrow at 9:15 p.m., with radio actress Nelly Valdez as my co-host), where he elaborated on the PNP's enormous problem. Citing Sombrero's research, he noted that in a typical town, the average strength of the local police force is 40 policemen, but in most towns in second- and third-class provinces, there are only 20 of them. Assuming there are 40, three of them are assigned to supervisory/administrative duties. Leaving allowance for five on leave or absent, this means 32 policemen rendering actual duty, divided into two shifts of 12 hours each (though civil service law requires an eight-hour job for civilians). Removing the desk officer, duty investigator, clerk and jail officers, this means only 12 can be deployed in operations at a given time. But Lomibao argues that to launch a successful raid on a *jueteng* den with 30 to 50 people, composed of collectors, *cabos* and other employees, 12 cops are barely enough. Assuming suspects are arrested, they usually post the necessary bail bond and are eventually released after investigation.

* * *

**A front-page article in the Singapore Straits Times last Thursday, May 26, titled "Sorry State of the Police in Philippines," by its Manila correspondent, Luz Baguioro, highlighted the fact that the ideal ratio is about one PNP cop for every 500 residents per eight-hour shift. But with the current strength of 115,104 cops for a population of about 82 to 84 million, this is a ratio of one policeman for every 2,200 people, based on three officers for a 24-hour shift. Lomibao estimated that, given today's budgetary constraints, the realistic minimum strength for the PNP ought to be about 160,000, which means it's short of about 45,000 cops. In addition, he pointed out that the PNP has an annual budget of P35 billion, of which P30 billion goes to salaries, and only a paltry P5 billion goes to operations, which includes running after *jueteng* and other vices.**

**Lomibao also pointed out that of the 1,530 police stations across the country, only 33 percent have ground vehicles; 77 percent have no communication vehicles (it needs about 1,860 patrol cars and 7,000 motorcycles). About 20,000 policemen do not have the standard handguns, and bullets are very limited. The PNP also lacks 90,000 hand-held radios, and nearly all stations need cameras, finger-printing equipment and evidence-collection kits.**

# The visa quest

**AT LARGE**

*Rina Jimenez-David*

MY brother Manny, who now lives in the United States, has a story that to me encapsulates the Filipino US visa-seeking experience.

While he was queuing at the US Embassy for the interview with a consul, my brother said he was so impressed with all the other applicants waiting in line, with the men clad in dress shirts and even suits, while the women were wearing business attire, high-heeled pumps and even stockings. Being stuck with each other's company for hours, my brother picked up the impression that he had been thrown in the midst of "big shots."

Anyway, my brother's application for a visa was finally approved and at that time, successful applicants were told to return a few days later to pick up their passports with the valuable visas attached. (These days, passports are sent by an authorized courier.) When the day came for him to pick up his passport, my brother at first couldn't find any of his "batch mates" among the crowd lining up to claim passports. Only much later did he realize that the reason he didn't at first recognize any of his newfound friends was that their dress, and their demeanor, had changed drastically.

*"Naka-tsinelas at shorts na lang ang karamihan* (Many of them were wearing just rubber sandals and shorts)," he said, laughing, because he, too had not bothered to dress up now that he was "safe." The "big shots" he had been so impressed with turned out to be ordinary employees and even unemployed individuals, dropping their airs once they no longer had to impress a skeptical American consul.

* * *

I REMEMBERED my brother's story while watching "La Visa Loca," writer-director Mark Meily's latest opus that depicts, in hilarious detail and outrageous excess, a Filipino Everyman's travails as he seeks the golden ticket out of this wretched country towards what he believes is the Promised Land.

The opening shot says it all: Filipino visa applicants lined up before a consul's window with crosses etched on their foreheads. It just happens to be Ash Wednesday (much of the movie's action takes place during Lent and Holy Week), but the crosses etched in ash seem to mark each applicant/supplicant as somehow doomed, condemned to an eternally frustrated search for ultimate salvation.

I understand Meily's original title for this movie was "Penitencia Republic," and that is exactly what the opening frame depicts: a nation of penitents paying for their sins of commission and omission, the biggest of which is simply being born Filipino.

The Pinoy Everyman, who seeks escape but who in the meanwhile heroically soldiers on, is portrayed by Robin Padilla, and it seems no one else could have done justice to the role. For Padilla, for all his quirks and poses, has built a career precisely on depicting the ordinary Pinoy, or at least what the ordinary Pinoy wishes to be, and endearing himself to the public, despite his many faults. In Binoe's hands, this individual is stalwart but gifted with a rich sense of humor and irony, has a wandering eye but is sentimental in his love affairs, is brave but foolish, *maginoo pero medyo bastos* (gallant but somehow crude).

* * *

PADILLA is supported by an amazing and effective line-up of actors, and it's a wonder how Meily and the producers were able to convince such stellar talents to agree to take on relatively minor roles.

Foremost among them is Johnny Delgado, who I am already nominating for best supporting actor, as Padilla's father. Truly satisfying is how the filmmakers and actors skirted the temptation to sentimentalize the father-son relationship, and how Delgado adds grit and humor to the otherwise pitiable figure of an aging and ailing father trying to come to grips with the possibility of losing his only son to a job abroad.

Joining the support cast is Rufa Mae Quinto who subdues her usually powerful comedic and sexy presence in her role as Robin's former girlfriend. And certainly impressive is the composition of the "Greek chorus" which editorializes on the adventures of our intrepid visa-seeker. They are: Robert Seña, Isay Alvarez and May Bayot, certainly among our best vocal talents, and respected comics Tessie Tomas and Noel Trinidad.

Also making cameo appearances are Eddie Gutierrez, Ricky Davao, Joonee Gamboa (hilarious as a bogus cult leader claiming to be protected by amulets), and an American actor who portrays the host of a show called "Planet Strange," seeking out all the weird and wacky aspects of Philippine culture and religiosity which come to the fore during our fervid observance of Holy Week.

* * *

THERE'S a lot of laughter in "La Visa Loca." Even what would seem to be the most harrowing scene depicting Padilla's crucifixion is relieved by his hallucination where he switches places with an American consul and begins to stamp the passport of every foreigner applying for a Philippine visa with "denied!"

The audience laughs appreciably at the prospect of giving these arrogant foreigners a dose of their own medicine, but the laughter sounds hollow and forced. This is a hallucination, after all, and our "hero" has had to have himself crucified simply to avail himself of a caregiver's job in Florida which would allow him access to that all-important visa.

I don't know how many among the thousands who queue at the US Embassy each day have made such a major sacrifice for a visa, but the truth is that all of them have paid a high price for this valuable document, whether it be the family's sole carabao, a stable job, an entire workday or wounded pride. Thankfully, there's a movie that at least allows us to laugh at such a soul-destroying ordeal as a visa quest, while making us realize that there's also joy to be found in being Pinoy in the Philippines.

# Condemned to repetition

**SENSE AND SENSIBILITY**

*Bambi L. Harper*

IT is to be expected that at the turn of the century, Americans writing about the Spanish regime in the Philippines wouldn't be writing laudatory tributes. Still it's amazing how many of the observations are striking in their similarity to present-day situations.

For instance, in Amos Fiske's "The Story of the Philippines" (1898), we are informed that the colonial government's main objective was "to multiply offices and salaries and make places for favorites and dependents of Spanish politicians." A royal commission was established at one point that inquired into the "doings" of a governor general, initiated a "life-style" check and "frequently he was brought to book for peculations and embezzlements or other delinquencies, and sometimes his promotion was to prison instead of another office." (Which is more than we can say for today's Ombudsman.)

However the sentence usually had to do more with whether the governor had friends or enemies in the commission. But it was a well known fact that governor generals made large fortunes within a few years of being appointed and "all officials were intent upon lining their pockets while their terms lasted."

The governor general received a salary of $40,000 for a term of three years. Before his appointment to the country's top post, he was usually an army officer. Under him, was a central office staff costing some $45,000 annually; a chief of civil administration who received $12,000 in salaries yearly and $18,000 for other expenses. There was an administrative council with three members, who were paid a salary of $4,700 each, and a budget of $15,000 for other expenses. Gen. Valeriano Weyler was reputed to have saved several millions in his three-year term, while Gen. Ramon Blanco left it dead broke. The latter was an exception.

In 1886, 69 divisions and subdivisions replaced the former system of civil provinces and military districts. Nineteen of these were called civil provincial governments, including the province of Manila. There were eight first-class governments: Albay, Batangas, Bulacan, Ilocos Norte, Ilocos Sur, La Laguna, Pampanga and Pangasinan; seven second-class governments: Bataan, Camarines Norte, Camarines Sur, Mindoro, Nueva Ecija, Tayabas and Zambales; and three third-class governments: Cagyan, Isabel and Nueva Vizcaya. There were three military divisions—Visayas, Mindanao and Cavite—and 43 military provincial districts under an officer. Sulu, Iloilo and Cotabato were under a colonel. Cebu, Capiz, Misamis, Zamboanga, Surigao and Davao were under a lieutenant-colonel, while Dapitan and Zucuran were under a major as well as La Union, Abra, Tarlac and Morong, Antique, Samar, Leyte, Bohol and Negros.

There were civil governors in the more populous provinces of Luzon but they could not expend funds. In fact, funds were collected and sent to Manila and very little went back to the province. If the people needed bridges or roads, they attended to these without official help, which may explain why parish priests with the "help" of the people built dams and dikes. (That help was referred to as "*polo*" and was in effect taxation.) If you could afford it, you "paid" instead of rendering 15 days of labor. Unfortunately, the money went into the treasury and the province didn't see it either.

The objective, according to Fiske, was for the authorities to maintain power, not to benefit the people. There were *gobernadorcillos* under the provincial governors and they were responsible for the collection of taxes. They were compelled to pay the full amount whether they collected it or not. "Corruption and inefficiency pervade the whole system, which is based upon the fundamental idea that public officials are to be supported as an embodiment of central authority, and not that they are agents of the people for the performance of services for their benefit." (Clearer than this you don't get. So why did we return to this system?)

Colonial revenues amounted to $10 million or $12 million annually and came from taxes and imposts, trading licenses and *cedulas*. So the idea of those ID cards is old hat and appears to be just another means of raising money. Each person above 18 had to have one of those certificates and had to pay anywhere between 75 cents and $25 a year. There was also a tax on the Chinese and an income from gambling.

There were civil and criminal courts and a Supreme Court in Manila and another in Cebu as well as provincial courts, "but there does not seem to be much justice." Since it took so long to carry out any litigation and it cost a bundle and you were never sure of the results, "no prudent man attempts it." An injured citizen rarely resorted to suing any one since it was the "means of exhausting his means, his patience, and his powers of endurance."

It sure looks like those years under Hollywood didn't last nearly long enough and, overwhelmed by nostalgia, we reverted to the old ways as soon as we could.

# Grace experience

**YOUNG BLOOD**

*Bro. Nilo A. Lardizabal, OP*

*We want to know what the young are thinking about. What are their thoughts on current issues? We welcome contributions from the twentysomething and below.*—Ed.

CHECK out this unique group. It is composed of high school graduates, registered nurses, a physical therapist, a pharmacist, engineers, teachers, accountants, a forestry graduate, and a ballet dancer. No, they are are not job seekers. All together they make up the students in our seminary. And they are my brothers.

We live in the Dominican Studentate of Sto. Domingo Church in Quezon City, a home for both saints and sinners. And I am a Dominican friar (brother). We have different personalities and come from different backgrounds, but we pray, work, eat and play together, day in and out. This is my community, and I have come to love it.

What's so attractive about religious life? Well, I may be assuming too much, but the facts are all there. All of these people have embraced a life that is unique and different and, should I say, special.

Religious life has an element of mystery. But few things can be as mysterious as my being called to it. You see, I grew up as a nominal Catholic who couldn't care less if I didn't go to Mass on Sundays. In grade school, I experienced the wrath of Dominican sisters who bombarded me with homework and exams. I hated them for it, young as I was. (Later on though, I was able to use such hard discipline in my higher studies. They taught me to love studying.) Even when I was in high school at the University of Santo Tomas, I snickered at the sight of Dominican priests roaming around the campus in their funny habit. They were the first men I ever saw wearing *palda*!

And then I found myself in the UST College of Arts and Letters taking up philosophy. The course taught me discipline, research and liberality. And I also learned that God was dead. So I was caught in the uncomfortable situation of having to serve as lector at Mass every morning before class while wrestling with the idea that the God I was serving was dead! But even then the religious life seemed to hold a strange attraction to me.

So here I am. I often ponder upon this life I have chosen and how different it is from the lives of other young men my age. Don't get me wrong, I do not want to compare them in such a way that would lead me to say one life is better than the other. But the simplicity of the life I have chosen, say, in terms of material possessions or fashion stands in glaring contrasts with competitive and aggressive lifestyle of others of my generation. For instance, the designer jeans and shirts that young men prefer are far attractive than the worn-out garb I usually wear. Unlike them, I can't afford to be *japorms* be it in my haircut, my shoes, my clothes, everything. But then I do not deem them to be necessary.

What about the cell phones with every imaginable feature in them? My stone-age model can't compare with them. But then I tell myself that at least no one would be interested in stealing my phone.

Other young people seem to have all the time and the money to spend for hanging out in malls, gimmicks, etc; I have to follow a daily routine consisting of prayers, Mass and study. No wonder other young people think that I have chosen a life that is corny, boring and detached from reality.

But despite the absence of so many things they consider fun and exciting, I am (rather surprisingly, even to me) happy in the religious life. Never have I felt miserable and never have I regretted the kind of life I have embraced. Again, this is a mystery. And I can explain it only as a gift; a grace from God.

What is there in religious life? I'm not sure. But I dare say that I have come to know Christ and that He loves and cares for me. It is essentially a grace experience, a time when one feels the reality of God in one's personal life, that He is real and loving.

Whatever it is, I am sure I won't let go of it or exchange it for any other kind of life. Where I am now has changed my life and my relationship with Him. Of course, my life is far from perfect and still needs a lot of fixing, but I can say that I have found Him and I find great joy in being with Him.

God must be laughing at me, for I who have disobeyed him so many times now live only to be a little closer to Him.

Last April 29, I said my perpetual vows of poverty, chastity and obedience, together with five other Dominican brothers. That means no possessions, no girlfriends, no turning back, no way out. But why is this life so beautiful?

*Bro. Nilo A. Lardizabal, OP, 26, is a theology graduate.*

**NOTICE TO YOUNGBLOOD CONTRIBUTORS:**

*If you are sending your contributions by e-mail, please address it to youngblood@inquirer.com.ph together with your address and information about your age and the school, course and year you're enrolled in or if employed, the position you're holding and the company you work with.*

## THEY SAID

### Integration

"Economic integration is a key strategic element of economic development of the region."

*—Asian Development Bank president Haruhiko Kuroda, explaining how to speed up the growth of Asian economies*

### A fact of life

"Some members of the clergy consider receiving *jueteng* money as a fact of life as if the end justifies the means."

*—A Church official, criticizing some of his colleagues for accepting money from gambling lords*

### Tattered journalism

"This mistake cost people their lives... and damaged the already tattered reputation of journalism."

*—Internet blog Buzzmachine publisher Jeff Jarvis on Newsweek's false report that US interrogators at Guantanamo Bay desecrated the Koran*

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# Inconsistent law on garbage

WE must all live by the rule of law. And when one feels that his rights are being violated, his civil mind instinctively looks for what we call legal protection.

We live in Barangay Rizal, Makati City, where a garbage truck passes by almost each morning, blowing its horn. Just the same, for more than five years now, I and my family have been regularly and literally smoked out of our house by our neighbors who burn their garbage day in and day out. One can just imagine the offensive smell of burning plastic filling up your lungs even while asleep, accompanied from time to time with some minor explosions, probably caused by aerosol cans. Expenses on bronchial and other respiratory related medicines keep on going up.

Thinking enough is enough, I decided to acquire a copy of Republic Act 8749, also known as the Philippine Clean Air Act of 1999. I thought, at last I could bring my neighbors, at least, to a barangay court armed with the law that says "The State shall guarantee every citizen the right to breathe clean air."

But reading further into the law, I was more in disbelief than in dismay to find that in my hand, the very law—189 pages of it—that should guarantee that the air we breath is clean, contradicts itself. For under its Section 20, on the ban on incineration, it is stated that the prohibition shall not apply to traditional small-scale method of community/neighborhood sanitation *"siga."*

How on earth could those supposedly intelligent lawmakers have overlooked, passed and approved this law?

What then should I do now to protect the health of my family, especially my 4-year-old child who has been breathing the same polluted air from the time he was born? Do I need to measure the quantities of foreign particles in the air, such as cadmium, copper, sulfur dioxide etc., in micro grams for a minimum of four hours to prove my point? Or should I start saving money to buy me a sniper rifle? But then, at whom should I aim it first? At the ones who burn their garbage but definitely have not violated any law, or those who enacted the inconsistent law? Just asking.

**—RUDY MARTINEZ,**
**rcmartinez@pldt.com.ph**

## Senate hearings on 'jueteng' useless

THE SENATE is again conducting a hearing on *jueteng*. The hearing will just be a waste of time and taxpayers' money. If a public official is involved, file the case with the Ombudsman. If a private citizen is involved, file the case with the courts.

How many Senate hearings have been conducted and nothing came out of them? Senate hearings are practically useless.

For Senators Aquilino Pimentel and Panfilo Lacson, if they don't have solid proof, they better shut up; they are just aggravating the jittery situation; they are not doing the country any good.

Like the other opposition members, they are only good in criticizing the administration but they don't offer solutions to problems. If they are planning to run for President, they should help solve the economic problems of the country. They should not destroy people who are only trying to find solutions to our problems. Accusing anybody without proof is unhealthy.

**—BAYANI MAGTANGGOL,**
**bayanimagtanggol@yahoo.com**

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER LETTERS

## Common terminals for provincial buses

THIS is a reaction to the news item "Bus reduction on Edsa seen." (PDI, 4/26/05 )

I welcome the move to decongest Edsa by way of reducing the number of buses plying this major thoroughfare. But the reduced occupancy of buses cannot be a valid reason for such a move.

If only the suggestion to put up common bus terminals on the north and south ends of Metro Manila had been implemented by the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority, the number of buses along Edsa would have already been reduced.

With the MRT and LRT in full operation, why still allow provincial buses coming from the northern and southern provinces to enter Edsa and the Rizal Avenue-Taft Avenue corridors?

**—TRANQUILINO S. ATIENZA,**
**former director of TEC,**
**8401 Hemlock St.,**
**Marcelo Green Village,**
**Parañaque City**

## A businessman with a conscience

IT may have taken a little time to happen, but Ambassador Alfonso T. Yuchengco's act of shelling out P250 million from his personal resources to help defray the tuition fee obligations of Pacific Plans Inc. for this coming school year somehow eased the tension between the PPI and its plan holders.

For several weeks, the PPI has been at the receiving end of unsavory remarks from practically all sectors of society, particularly from its disgruntled plan holders and the media.

Yuchengco's move certainly is a welcome signal from the taipan and not at all surprising since the ambassador is known for his integrity and excellent business acumen. AY is also known for his genuine concern for children and the less fortunate.

The PPI's problem is corporate in nature, but Yuchengco opted to personally bail out the beleaguered company from its financial difficulties brought about by factors beyond control. Perhaps with his gesture, Mr. Integrity will be remembered as a businessman with a conscience who will not sit idly and comfortably with his millions while poor parents suffer with the uncertainty of where to get the money to pay for the rising cost of education fees in this country.

Thank you Mr. Integrity!

**—PATRICK S. CHIN,**
**proprietor,**
**Upward Sales Enterprise,**
**11 ROTC Hunter St.,**
**Tatalon, Quezon City**

## Journalism is not all about profit

"I SHALL not degrade any person by reason of sex," thus, stipulates No. 7 of the Journalists' Code of Ethics, which was formulated by the Philippine Press Institute (PPI) and the National Press Club (NPC).

To determine whether a published article or photo is obscene or not has always been a debate among conservatives, moralists and the media. But when I saw the May 27, 2005 online edition of a group of tabloids showing an almost nude 17-year-old girl (her private part nearly exposed) who was rescued in a Cybersex raid in Cubao, Quezon City, I was deeply upset.

Although her face was covered, I think publishing the photo was a clear violation of the journalists' ethical standards. Among other things, the publication of the photo smacked of implicit exploitation of a minor and a violation of the rights of a poor girl.

Such photo may be fit for personal collection, but not for online publication. Media should have enough sensitivity not to cross the limits of decency. The drive for higher sales should not be used as an alibi for exploiting others.

I'm against censorship, and I would die to defend press freedom. I was a professional journalist myself before I joined human rights work. It is for this reason that I call on journalists to have enough sensitivity, to go into self-examination and exercise self-censorship in dealing with such stories.

Because of the theory of supply and demand, the media, especially the tabloids, provide what readers want or demand—interesting (sex) stories, photos, gruesome murders and the like, among others—to boost sales. But journalists should realize that they have also a responsibility to society.

**—DANILO A. REYES,**
**intern, Asian Human Rights**
**Commission (AHRC),**
**998 Canton Rd., Mongkok,**
**Kowloon, Hong Kong**

## Doubling anti-car theft efforts

THIS is in response to the news report "Top traffic cop probed over stolen vehicles." (PDI, 4/19/05) We deny all allegations and accusations stated in the report.

Immediately after recovering stolen vehicles, the Regional Traffic Management Office 13 sends a spot report to the director of the Traffic Management Group in Camp Crame. Attached to the report are:

1. The impounding receipt and tactical inventory report.
2. Copy of the letter (together with the picture of the vehicle) informing the owner registered in the Vehicles Information Management System (VIMS) about the recovery.
3. The Physical Science Report by the crime laboratory.

On April 1, Bombo Radyo interviewed me about the recovered Isuzu Hilander at the RTMO 13 impounding area. I told the interviewer that it will be returned to Kendeigh Foreign Exchange Inc. (its rightful owner) in Makati City; and for this purpose a letter had been sent informing Kendeigh.

However, a representative of the Insular Gen Insurance called up to claim the vehicle, saying it had compensated Kendeigh for the car. Based on that representation, the RTMO 13 assumed that Insular Gen Insurance had become the rightful owner of the recovered car.

Bombo Radyo then asked about the use of the car and pilferage of spare parts and tires while the Isuzu Hilander was impounded. I told him that there was no truth to the report, although using it at night would make for an attractive bait for car thieves, if only to warn them that the Caraga region is not a safe place for their nefarious trade. But this could not be possibly done as it is against the law. Besides, the vehicle had to be shipped that night from Nasipit to Manila and, before that could be done, there were a lot of procedural requirements—the car had to be photographed and examined by the PNP Crime Laboratory; and measured to determine freight charges, etc.—that had to be complied with.

On April 7, Bombo Radio again called up and insisted that some pilferage had really occurred. And so I told him to refer the matter to the Insular Gen representative, after all, photos of the car were attached to the letter of information. The photos should be able to tell whether the missing spare parts were lost before or after recovery.

On April 19, Francisco Caliguid of PDI Mindanao added insult to injury by twisting the facts, thus maligning my name and discrediting the gains made by the Regional Traffic Management Office 13 in a most libelous manner.

Despite this unfortunate experience, I would like to assure everybody that as chief of RTMO 13, I am determined to double the efforts of this office against car theft and, if possible, completely put a stop to this criminal activity.

**—ARMENIO C. GLODOVE,**
**police superintendent, DSC,**
**regional chief, Regional Traffic**
**Management Office 13**
**(Caraga), Camp Rafael**
**C. Rodriguez,**
**Libertad, Butuan City**

---

*THE NEWS story was entirely based on recorded interviews with Supt. Armenio Glodove and his boss, Chief Supt. Ricardo Quinto. There was no attempt whatsoever to malign Glodove's integrity and his effort to combat the spate of car thefts in the city. I stand by my story.*

**—FRANKLIN A. CALIGUID,**
**correspondent,**
**PDI Mindanao Bureau**

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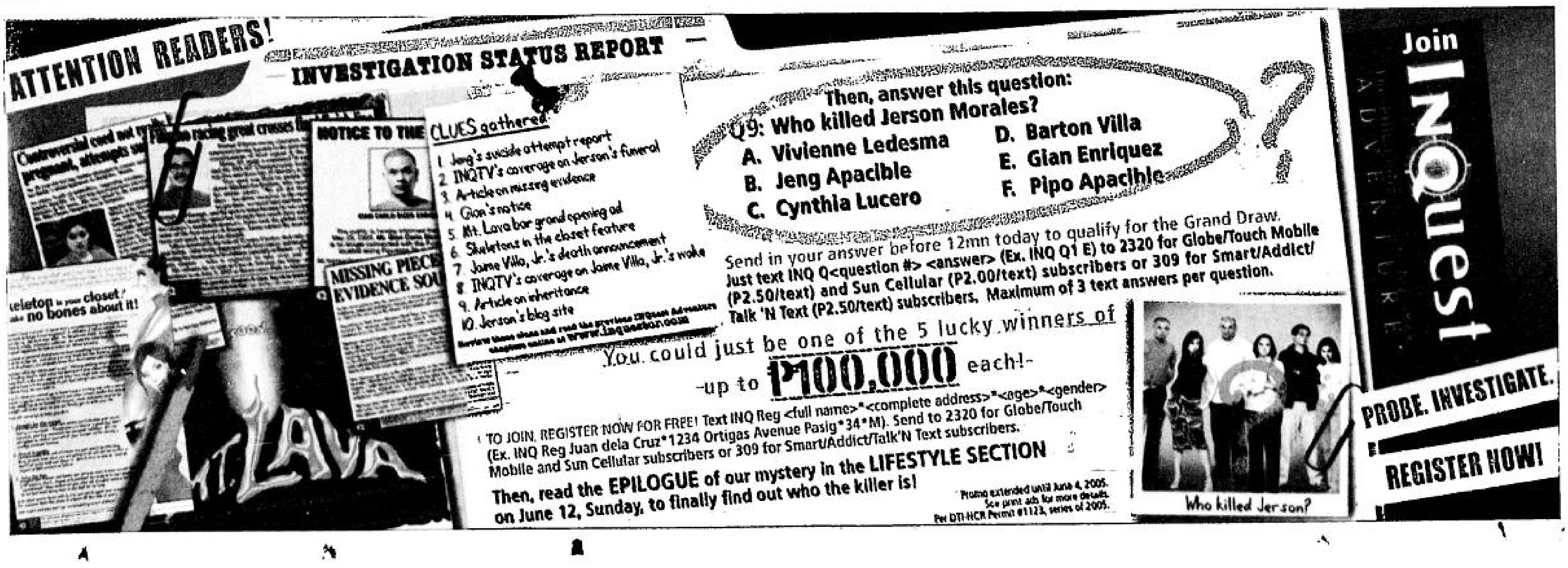
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INVESTIGATION STATUS REPORT
CLUES gathered:
1. Jeng's suicide attempt report
2. INQTV's coverage on Jerson's funeral
3. Article on missing evidence
4. Gian's notice
5. Mt. Lava bar grand opening ad
6. Skeletons in the closet feature
7. Jaime Villa, Jr.'s death announcement
8. INQTV's coverage on Jaime Villa, Jr.'s wake
9. Article on inheritance
10. Jerson's blog site
Then, answer this question:
Q9: Who killed Jerson Morales?
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B. Jeng Apacible
C. Cynthia Lucero
D. Barton Villa
E. Gian Enriquez
F. Pipo Apacible
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# 27,000 families to be moved to pave way for railway plan

## Project seeks to cut short travel time to 45 mins.

MAGALANG, Pampanga—Government lands along the Bulacan and Pampanga segments of the old Philippine National Railways tracks will be cleared of about 27,000 families, by December this year, to start the construction there of the $503.4-million NorthRail, a modern train system, Vice President Noli de Castro said here.

Relocation programs by the National Housing Authority moved down north after the agency completed the transfer of some 10,000 families from Malabon and Caloocan cities, De Castro, also chair of the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council, told reporters here on Thursday.

### Target date

The resettlement of more than 12,000 families in Meycauayan, Balagtas and Bocaue towns in Bulacan began last Monday and was expected to be finished by September, the target set by President Macapagal-Arroyo, he said.

According to him, many informal settlers have opted to avail of voluntary relocation to be able to select housing lots in new sites located in the towns.

"We have adopted an in-town policy (in the relocation)," De Castro said, without specifying where all the new sites are located.

"*Kaya yung mga tao hindi namin inilalayo kasi sila naman ang pasahero* (We're not taking them away from their towns of origin because they would also be the train's passengers)," he said.

Urban poor groups like the Kadamay and Lupa have opposed the relocation because there were no clear-cut plans, the sites are either far from work or not yet available, and the cost of housing assistance was too high.

### Opposition

Private contractors, De Castro said, were developing the sites on behalf of the NHA. A 15-hectare village is being readied in Meycauayan.

He said local inter-agency committees have gone full blast in documenting the settlers. The revalidation process is purging out fake claimants from the lists of beneficiaries.

From Apalit to Angeles City in Pampanga, more than 14,000 families will be moved out, he said.

"We should be over with the work before Christmas. What we are clearing are areas 15 meters on each side of the tracks," said De Castro.

In the Pampanga capital city of San Fernando, the settlers would be transferred to Barangay San Pedro Cutud where the government owns a 50-hectare lot, according to NHA general manager Federico Laxa.

### Christmas task

De Castro said the government has set aside P7 billion for the relocation component of the NorthRail, which he called a priority project of Ms Arroyo.

It links Clark, an American military air base-turned-special economic zone, to Metro Manila to boost trade and investments in northern and central Luzon.

Under the program, every family is allotted P175,000 in relocation assistance. That amount covers P50,000 worth of construction materials, which will be paid without interest in 30 years, and P100,000 for the land cost, which comes with a 6 percent interest payable in 30 years. *Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

**DISPLACEMENT**

**IN THE KNOW**

THE Northrail Project of the North Luzon Railways Corp, with a cost of more than $500 million, would run from Caloocan City in Metro Manila to Clark in Pampanga.

* Designers also plan to extend the railway to the Ilocos region.

* Its proponents said it would reduce travel time from Caloocan City to Malolos, Bulacan to 45 minutes from 145 minutes currently by bus.

* The new railway would use the abandoned line of the Philippine National Railways (PNR) that is parallel to the North Luzon Tollways, which had been rehabilitated recently.

* Trains powered by diesel engines would run on the railway and proponents said they could reach speeds of up to 120 kms per hour.

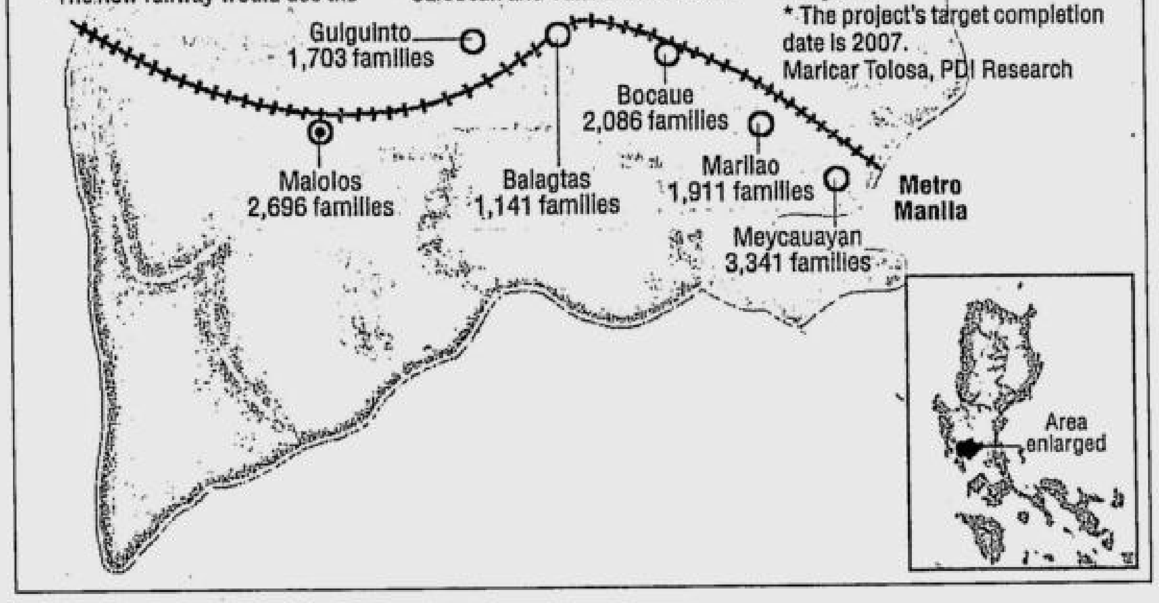
* Its first phase, which would be 32.2 kilometers long, covers Caloocan and Valenzuela Cities in Metro Manila and the towns of Marilao, Bocaue, Guiguinto and Malolos in Bulacan.

* Financing for the project would come from the Export-Import Bank (Eximbank) of China and loans from other sources.

* The loan from China's Eximbank would mature in 20 years and carry an annual interest rate of 3 percent. Payment would start after five years.

* The project's target completion date is 2007.

Maricar Tolosa, PDI Research



# Zambo folk rally to stop transfer of Southcom HQ

ZAMBOANGA CITY—Thousands of residents here took to the streets yesterday to protest the impending transfer of the military's Southern Command to Pagadian City.

The protesters, wearing red armbands and carrying streamers and placards, marched to the Western Mindanao State University gymnasium, where speakers took turns lambasting the plan as suicide.

Government and private offices, including commercial business establishments closed shop.

Employees were even told to join the rally and attend a House committee hearing on the proposed Southcom transfer.

Parañaque Rep. Roilo Golez, chair of the committee on national defense, said Zamboangueños have expressed their "strong opposition to the transfer."

President Macapagal-Arroyo had directed the military to move out of this city.

"It is very obvious that the people of Zamboanga City are against (the) transfer because of economic and security reasons," Golez said.

Sorsogon Rep. Francis Escudero described the Southern Command transfer as a "planless decision."

"I sided with Zamboangueños when I learned that the government made a decision without any plan," he said.

Golez's committee has started a hearing on the transfer order after the military admitted that it will require a huge fund.

"It's our mandate to see and investigate the effect of transfer, how much it will cost ... Why put it in Zamboanga del Sur when we can keep it here," Golez said.

Earlier, Mayor Celso Lobregat said the government has no money to fund the transfer.

"It is really economic suicide, because the transfer is not included in the General Appropriations Act. Besides, the government is cash strapped, so where are they going to get the budget for the transfer, which will require millions of pesos," Lobregat said.

Golez said the transfer of Southcom would not be an economic suicide for the government.

But he agreed with claims that it would have serious implications on the security of the city and nearby areas. *Julie Alipala, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

# E. Visayas needs 512 more teachers but could only pay for 152

**By Joey A. Gabieta**
*PDI Visayas Bureau*

TACLOBAN CITY—The Department of Education in Eastern Visayas said the region needs 512 new teachers but funds are available for only 152.

Belen Hipe, DepEd regional planning unit chief, said the Department of Budget and Management has informed her office that only 51 teaching positions for the elementary level and 101 for high school could be funded.

The 152 teaching slots are not new as these are existing positions vacated by teachers who have either retired, resigned or have died, Hipe said.

"There is actually no hiring for this school year as the DBM informed us that there is no available funds to pay the salaries of new teachers," Hipe said.

Hipe said they have devised some schemes to address this problem. Among them was to request the different local government units in Eastern Visayas to hire and pay for the salaries of new teachers.

She said the DepEd has also implemented the educational service-contracting scheme where students enrol in private schools and their tuition is paid for by the government.

There are about 20,943 teachers in the elementary level and 6,050 in the secondary level serving the region's 3,582 public elementary schools and 369 public high schools.

Hipe said with the exception of the provinces of Biliran and Southern Leyte and the cities of Maasin in Southern Leyte and Ormoc in Leyte, all the provinces and Calbayog City in Samar and this city need new teachers in the elementary level.

Despite the lack of teachers, Hipe said officials were ready for the opening of classes this Monday. She said parents and teachers were helping clean schools and do minor repairs.

# BFAR orders ban on toxic species of goby fish

DAGUPAN CITY—The Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources has banned the gathering, marketing and eating of the fish that killed three people and hospitalized 22 others, mostly from Sual town, this week.

In a memorandum, BFAR chief Malcolm Sarmiento ordered all regional directors to ban certain species of goby fish (*bunor* in Pangasinan, *bunog* in Ilocano, *biya* in Tagalog) and species of puffer fish (*botete*) because they contain a toxin called tetrodoxin or puffer fish toxin which renders them not fit for consumption.

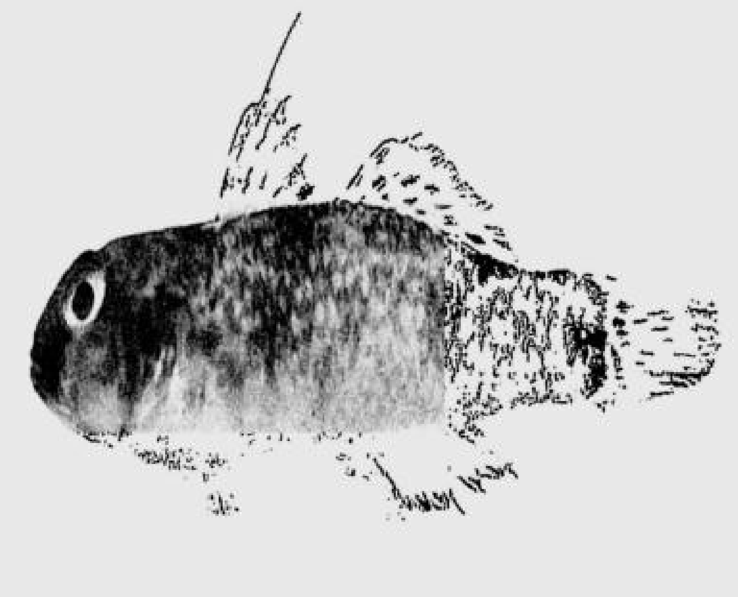
The scientific name of goby fish is Gobius criniger while that of puffer fish is Lagocephalus lunaris and Lagocephalus lagocephalus.

### No antidote

Sarmiento said there is no antidote to tetrodoxin or puffer fish toxin.

He said the first documented poisoning on the consumption of goby fish was in Cagayan Valley where an advisory was issued for that area.

The latest fatality in the poisoning in Alaminos City was Bernard Baladad Sr., 40, who died on Thursday, two days after he was confined at the intensive care unit of the Region 1 Medical Center (RMC).



**DEADLY fish**

Sarmiento said there has been an increase in poisoning cases due to goby fish from other regions, he added.

### Natural toxin

"In the light of this natural occurring toxin and the increased occurrence as well of the coverage of poisoning cases, a national ban on the gathering, marketing and consumption of (goby fish) and certain species of puffer fish is hereby issued," the memorandum read.

On March 17, Gov. Victor Agbayani issued a memorandum-circular to all municipal and city mayors informing them of the permanent ban on the selling and consumption of the two kinds of fish.

The office of the provincial agriculturist also went on air informing the public about the ban.

### Unheeded

But no one paid attention. Until May 31, a fish vendor from Barangay Capantolan in Sual bought goby fish from the Alaminos City market and sold it to her village mates.

Those who ate the fish started to feel numbness of the lips and tongue. They were taken to the Alaminos City District Hospital where Danilo Ramos, 42, died. The other victims were transferred to the RMC in Dagupan where Gerald Ramos, 30, was declared dead on arrival. *Yolanda Sotelo-Fuertes, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

# Ibalois tag GMA 'most beautiful head of state in the world' during her visit

TUBLAY, Benguet—Ibalois here declared President Macapagal-Arroyo as the "most beautiful head of state in the world" on Friday when she visited this town, 13 km northwest of Baguio City.

Maybe it was because the President treated Mayor Willy Velasco to his first helicopter ride to his town. Or maybe it was also because Benguet Rep. Samuel Dangwa was campaigning for rural policies that would assist the 20 poorest provinces in the country, which include Benguet.

But Ms Arroyo returned the favor by explaining to the Ibalois why they would need to suffer a few more years now that she had increased taxes.

### 'Painful process'

She told the Ibalois that they would experience "the painful process of increasing revenues," so the country could stop borrowing to finance its civic works.

Ms Arroyo flew to Barangay Tuel, the heart of guerrilla activity during World War II, to inaugurate the 40-meter long Tuel Bridge which links this town to Kapangan, and Sablan in Benguet, and Naguilian in Ilocos Sur.

The bridge was financed by a loan from the Austrian government. "I hope very soon we won't have to rely on loans to build new infrastructure now that we have new taxes," she told the Ibalois.

**THE "MOST beautiful head of state," as far as Ibalois are concerned.**

The President said the new taxes would "make up for the many years of neglect." The country's P900-billion budget still requires government to borrow to build new roads and offer social services, she said, because P300 billion of that amount pays for previous debts and P250 billion pays for government salaries.

A total of P150 billion is automatically given to local governments as their internal revenue allotments. Only P750 billion of the budget can be raised from taxes, she said.

But new taxes this year, like the excise tax on tobacco and alcohol, raised P1 billion for the government, which helped reduce the government's P200-billion deficit. The value added tax will be implemented in July.

"I know the pain and I feel the pain ... But I ask for patience because the pain we feel now will be the seed of our economic stability in the future," Ms Arroyo said. "The payback of fiscal regulation will be more jobs, better infrastructure, and better social services."

### Admitted

Some of the town's residents admitted that they had not understood Ms Arroyo's speech. "We don't know why we are responsible for the country's debts," a housewife said in Ilocano.

But they all cheered when Dangwa called Ms Arroyo the world's "most beautiful state leader." Velasco also kept calling Ms Arroyo "cute" when he discussed the President's new programs for Tublay.

Although financed by loans, Ms Arroyo's help in raising the bridge, as well as a new farm-to-market road, will bring tourists to Tublay's hot springs and investors to this outskirt town, Velasco said. *Vincent Cabreza and Delmar Cariño, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

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E-mail: inq_cebu@inquirer.com.ph
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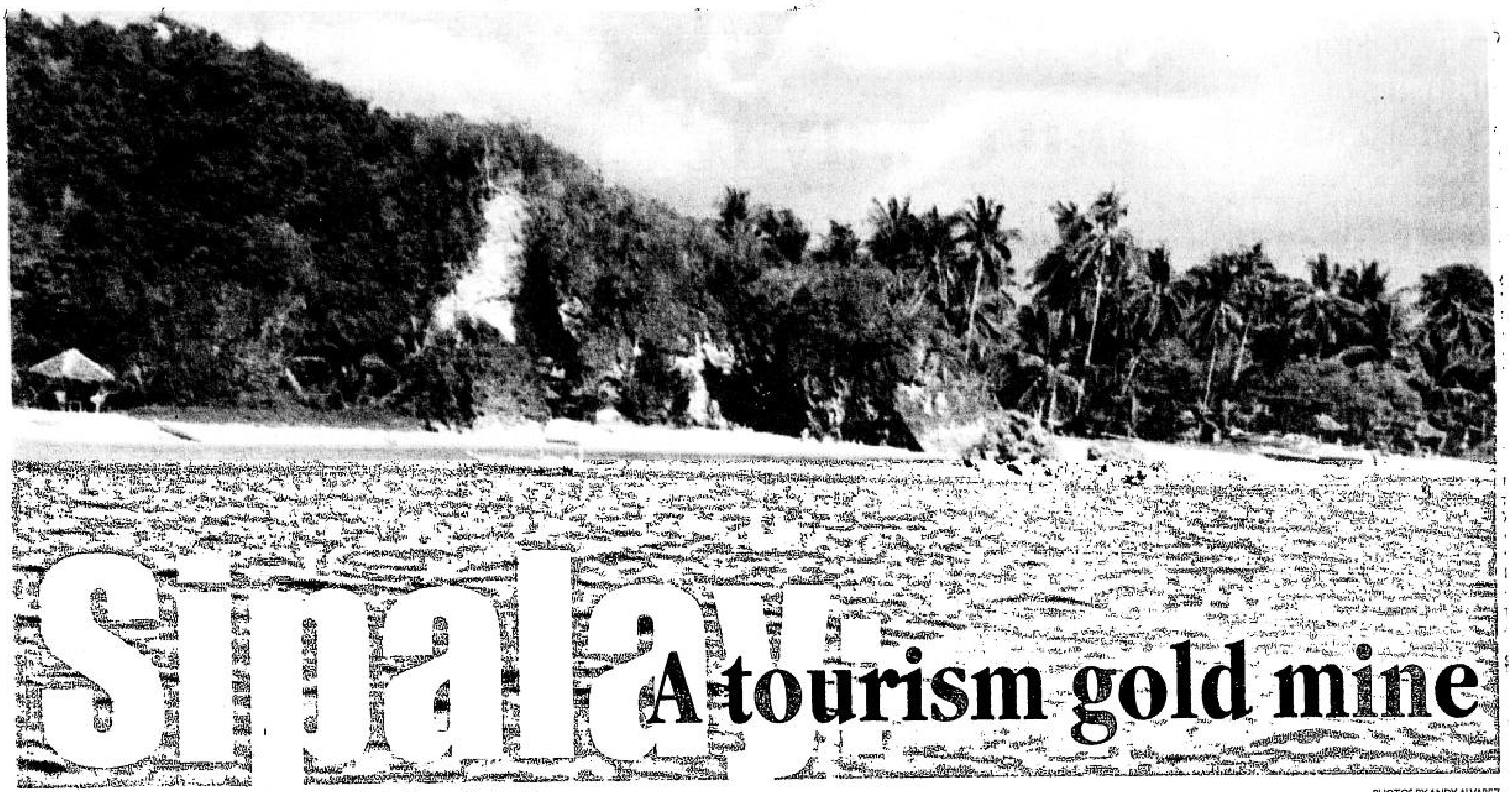


# Sipalay: A tourism gold mine

THE SUGAR Beach (Langub Beach) coastline in Sipalay, Negros Occidental

PHOTOS BY ANDY ALVAREZ

**By Carla P. Gomez**
*Sipalay City*

ONCE economically and environmentally devastated by the closure of two large mining firms, Sipalay City in southern Negros Occidental is ready to take off as a world-class tourist destination.

But Mayor Oscar Montilla says the city council is ensuring that development is sustainable. "We do not want to repeat the mistakes made on Boracay Island where development has grown beyond its carrying capacity," he says.

Five years ago, Philex Gold Philippines' Bulawan Gold Project in Barangay Nabulao closed, and three years earlier, Maricalum Mining Corp.'s copper mines in Barangay San Jose shut down. More than 5,000 people lost their jobs, Montilla says.

The companies also left behind their mine tailings ponds, from where ash and dust destroyed crops and threatened the health of several residents.

It's all over now, Montilla says. Should a mining firm operate anew in the area, the city will ensure strict compliance with environmental standards.

Today, the mayor is pushing for the reopening of Maricalum's old airstrip to small aircraft that will bring in local and foreign tourists who wish to sample the many resorts offering crystal-clear waters, coves, caves and dive spots.

Montilla says the planes can fly in tourists from Manila, Caticlan in Aklan, Palawan and Cebu, and even those from Dumaguete City in neighboring Negros Oriental who do not want to travel by land to Sipalay.

Hopefully, he says, the airstrip will be operational by the third quarter.

"One option I can take is expropriation, but I want to explore friendly means to reopen the airstrip first," he says.

Sipalay is 178.4 km south of Bacolod City or a 3-4 hours' drive on well-paved highways that present a savoring view of the countryside.

Among the places to go to is Sugar Beach in Barangay Langub, which boasts of six resorts that can be reached in 20 minutes by boat from downtown. A 300-meter all-weather road to the beach will be open soon so that tourists coming from the city proper can reach the place in 20 minutes, Montilla says.

A parking area will be built and vehicles will not be allowed within 100 meters from the resort areas to prevent them from spoiling the tranquility there.

A COTTAGE at Driftwood Village resort on Sugar Beach in Sipalay, Negros Occidental

## Sugar Beach denizens

Peter Ganz, 40, was a stockbroker who headed the equity trading department of a US firm in Switzerland. Karl Heinz, 40, was a carpenter, while his wife Cathy, 35, worked at a bank in Switzerland.

They, like other foreigners who live along the Sugar Beach (also known as the Langub Beach), have chosen to give up a fast-paced life in Europe to run resorts in Sipalay.

And it is no wonder that they have decided to stay as the coast is "quite stunning and offers good diving opportunities while the mountainous waterfalls are positively riddled with caves," writes Jens Peters in his Philippine Travel Guide.

Ganz, who owns and runs Driftwood Village with his Filipina wife Daisy and a partner who lives in Switzerland, says he chose to settle in the Philippines because "it is a beautiful country with nice people."

About six years ago, Ganz learned about the Langub Beach from a friend while he was staying in Dumaguete. He fell in love with the area and bought the land for his resort.

He says he named the resort Driftwood Village because it is dotted with amenities made of driftwood, including the tables and chairs.

The cottages are named after endangered Philippine species, like the tarsier, spotted deer, tamaraw and the Philippine eagle. Hammocks hang from trees where one can laze in to read a book or watch the sky turn red during sunset.

"Here, we enjoy a magnificent landscape, perfect climate and marvelous food, from Thai to European cuisine ... and no noise," Ganz points out.

## Outback

For those who want action, they can discover Sipalay's outback on a motorbike or while trekking, diving or deep-sea fishing for dinner, he says.

Ganz says those interested in visiting the resort can log on at www.driftwood-village.com, as most European tourists do.

"Most foreigners come here to escape the winter and return in the summertime," he says. Peak season for foreign tourists is from November to April, he adds.

Redemy Palic, Filipino owner of Langub Garden Resort, says that in 1998, land along Sugar Beach was being sold at P270 per square meter. Following the discovery of its world-class tourism potential, the price has soared to P2,000.

Palic says his place, which covers 2.7 hectares of land, caters to Filipino tourists. It can accommodate whole families and it offers Filipino cuisine.

In the morning, fishermen dock their boats at the beach and sell their catch to visitors at the resorts. Blue marlin sells for as low as P70 a kilo.

## Dive spots

Aside from its white sands and clear, blue waters, the Sugar Beach has countless dive sites where one can explore shipwreck, coral reefs and caves.

Karl and Cathy Heinz, who run Takatuka Lodge, and other resort owners offer diving tours for both experienced and beginners.

The couple came to know about the beach when they visited Karl's brother Marc, who is married to Evarose, a native of Sipalay. The Heinzes decided to stay.

"We enjoy the simple life here ... stuff we had back in Switzerland we don't need anymore; it is not important," says Karl.

Takatuka, which is decorated with bright-colored Aztec-looking wooden figures, has been home to Karl and Cathy for three years now.

## Luminous wreck area

Karl enthusiastically tells of the many dive spots one can explore in Sipalay and the various vivacious fish and colorful corals, as well as ribbon eels that dwell in the waters off his resort. He fondly describes the place as "this luminous wreck area."

One can explore the MS Jojo wreck, an 80-meter two-mast freighter that sank in the 1990s and now lies on its side on a sandback 22-33 meters deep. It is the habitat of countless batfish and big lionfish. Divers can see the creatures by the hundreds through the cargo hatch, Karl says.

Another find is the SS Panay, a US-commissioned warship carrying munitions supplies for Filipino guerrillas. It was sank by two Japanese planes in March 1942 in the Campomanes Bay.

The 90-meter vessel lies perfectly upright at a depth of 33-41 meters. Hundreds of gas masks are still there, according to Karl.

Juliens Wreck, a beautifully overgrown freighter, lies scattered at a depth of 7 meters, he says.

Takatuka divers say it is the perfect dive spot for beginners and qualifies for snorkeling.

One can also explore two caves and a grotto in one dive tour. Stingrays frequently hide in the caves' sandy floors while the ceilings are decked with dangling bats.

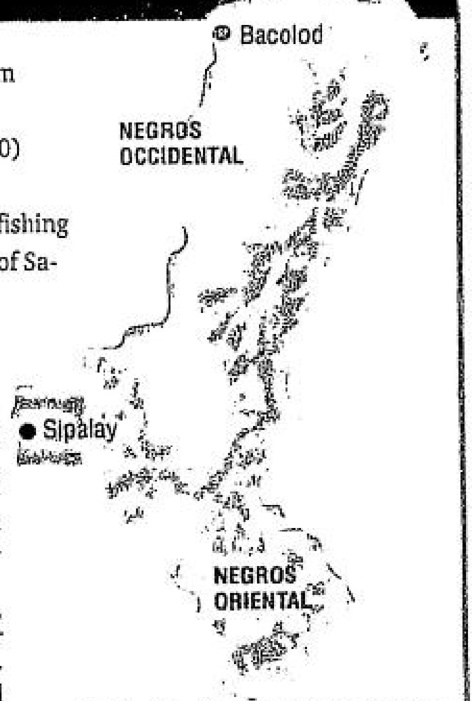
Karl recommends reef diving in areas rich in corals, canyons, rocks and fish.

Other resorts on the stretch are Sulu Sunset Beach Resort owned by German Jurgen Fahrner, Bermuda Beach Resort ran by Carl and Rosalyn Kaletta, Roselyn Beach Resort and Takatuka.

On Punta Ballo, also in Sipalay, are Ester Beach Resort, Artistic Diving and Beach Resort, A-Rock Beach Resort, Easy Diving Beach Resort, and Nataasan Beach Resort.

Gov. Joseph Marañon, who is pushing tourism development in the southern part of the province, recently organized a media tour of Sipalay's attractions through the Pag-ugyon Foundation.

## Profile of Sipalay City



**Distance from Bacolod City :** 178.4 km
**Land area :** 38,105.61 ha
**Population :** 62,063 (as of May 1, 2000)
**Number of barangays :** 17
**Main source of livelihood :** Deep sea fishing
**Festivals :** Pasaway Festival and Feast of Sacred Heart of Jesus

### Brief history

SIPALAY, the second southernmost town of Negros Occidental province, directly faces the northern area of Sulu Sea. It became a city in 2001, with an annual Internal Revenue Allocation of P188 million as of 2002.

Formerly a barrio of Cauayan, Sipalay was used as a garrison for Spanish soldiers guarding the southern corridor of Negros Island. Original immigrants of the place came from the island of Panay, the town being just across a short sea span from what is now Iloilo. When the new settlers arrived, they drove away the natives to the mountains. No roads existed during the time, and trading was easier with Iloilo and Panay through sailboats. When the Americans came, development was introduced with the establishment of schools and roads.

Sipalay became a lookout point when the Japanese occupied the country, with the town being used as an outpost by the guerrillas. It was also in Sipalay, in Campomanes or Maricalum Bay, where the first American submarine landed to deliver arms and supply for the forces commanded by airman-hero Col. Jesus Villamor. The staging of the final fight with the Japanese jumped from this point when sufficient supplies shipped from Australia arrived.

### How to get there

Sipalay is almost four hours' drive south of Bacolod City. Public utility vehicles plying the southern Negros route pass by this city. All roads leading to this southernmost city are fully asphalted.

SOURCE: OFFICIAL WEBSITES OF THE PROVINCE OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL AND SIPALAY CITY

# Witness described …

From page A1

by one Amando Ocampo Jr. as secretary general. The signatory in the Bigkis Pinoy card was Ado Ocampo Jr., with the same position.

### 'If it stinks…'

Lacson denied being Mayor's handler and said the President's partymates were trying to muddle the investigation.

"They should know that if it really stinks, it will smell whatever they say," the opposition senator said in a statement.

"The issue is jueteng money greasing the hands of our government officials. All of these pronouncements about an alleged opposition destabilization plot are nothing but products of, should I say, a panicky mind," he said.

Lacson also said the Kampi congressmen should show some respect to Cruz.

"Have they lost the decency in themselves and the respect for a man of the cloth to accuse Bishop Cruz of allowing himself to be used for whatever political gain? I think the good bishop, who has been at the forefront of this fight long before this latest jueteng exposé, deserves more credit," Lacson said.

### Jueteng fixer

Villafuerte said that Mayor was only a jueteng fixer, and that the real financier was one Ben "Bara" Aguilar, an Albay-based businessman who served as Lacson's campaign manager in Albay when he ran for president last year.

"[Mayor is] a political hatchet man [who came out] to play a role to destabilize the government," Villafuerte said. "I believe very strongly that he [Lacson] is behind Boy Mayor."

Villafuerte described Mayor as a "peddler of lies and accusations." He said Mayor's "unfounded" claims were "such an act of vileness and depravity."

Ignacio Arroyo, who was seated beside Villafuerte, Puno and Bataan Rep. Albert Garcia, said: "In all probability, I will believe it. Villafuerte has the documents that Boy Mayor was convicted… *Pakawala ito ng* [He is a stooge of] a gambling lord who was the campaign manager of Ping Lacson. Unfortunately, Archbishop Cruz is being used [by Lacson]."

Ignacio Arroyo is the younger brother of the President's husband, Jose Miguel Arroyo.

Kampi's claim followed the line used by the National Bureau of Investigation when it presented to the media on Thursday two witnesses who discredited Mayor.

### 'Bootlickers'

One of the two, Rizalino Serilla, said Mayor was simply a fixer who was not in a position to know about jueteng protection money for distribution.

But Lacson said Aguilar was his supporter, not campaign manager.

"I did not know that he [Aguilar] had a connection with Boy Mayor," Lacson told the INQUIRER. He added that Mayor had "volunteered himself as a witness" to Cruz.

As to the two witnesses against Mayor, Lacson said it was very clear who were behind them: "Who else but the bootlickers [NBI Director Reynaldo] Wycoco and [Justice Secretary Raul] Gonzalez?"

Lacson said the time to confront Gonzalez would be during the hearing on the latter's confirmation at the justice committee of the Commission on Appointments on Tuesday.

Lacson chairs the committee, which will make the preliminary action on Gonzalez's nomination.

According to Lacson, many senators will take Gonzalez to task for threatening witnesses on the illegal numbers racket.

He said Gonzalez's intimidation of jueteng witnesses could derail and even lead to the bypassing of his appointment.

Lacson also said that apart from the jueteng issue, there were at least five people opposed to Gonzalez's confirmation.

"Definitely, the confirmation is about the fitness of an official. And if you are not fit for the job, you should not be confirmed," he said.

### Political pawn

To prove that Mayor was a "political pawn" and had no credibility, Villafuerte—whose son, Camarines Sur Gov. Raymond Luis Villafuerte, had also been linked to jueteng—admitted personally overseeing the background check on the witness.

He said the check took only two days.

"I made some inquiries," said Villafuerte, stressing that the information was readily given to his emissaries by bank and court employees in Legazpi City.

Pointing to the documents, Villafuerte said Mayor faced 11 criminal cases from 1994 to 2004, which resulted in convictions for five counts of estafa (violation of Batas Pambansa Bilang 22, or the Bouncing Check Law) and subsequent garnishment of his property and bank accounts.

"If he claims to have received millions of pesos from jueteng, why did he borrow money from several people and later on defaulted [in his payments], much less give them to jueteng protectors?" said Villafuerte.

Based on the string of criminal cases, he said Mayor's "damaging" testimony was "unfair" because it failed to comply with "procedural and substantive due process."

"He perjured himself [by not] submitting vital evidence to prosecute [jueteng protectors] seriously," Villafuerte said.

# *A face-lift for Mike Arroyo*

From page A1

Arroyo underwent was a blepharoplasty, or the removal of excess skin and fat in the area around the eyes.

Another source said, however, that Arroyo had a "minor face-lift," a procedure that would involve considerably more restyling of the face to remove sagging tissues, wrinkles and other signs of age.

The INQUIRER learned about Arroyo's surgery from a source close to the Baywalk Beauties, a group of starlets who have been undergoing cosmetic makeovers at Guanzon's clinic.

The source was at the clinic for the cosmetic surgery of Mikaela and Rejoice, two of the Baywalk Beauties, when he saw the President's husband.

The guards at the Web Jet building, where Guanzon's Libis clinic is located on the second floor, said members of the Presidential Security Group swarmed the area on Thursday morning while the First Gentleman was supposed to be undergoing his surgery.

The INQUIRER tried to reach Guanzon at his Greenhills clinic yesterday but a receptionist said he was conducting an operation and could not be disturbed.

Arroyo has been making himself scarce since his arrival late Sunday from a vacation abroad. He flew to Singapore on May 20 amid a festering controversy over the First Family's alleged links to illegal gambling and a heated investigation in Congress.

Arroyo's lawyer, Jesus Santos, yesterday said that as far as he could tell, Arroyo had not had any cosmetic work done on himself.

"I just had breakfast with him this morning and I didn't notice anything," Santos said.

He said in Filipino that he knew of a friend who had undergone the procedure and "he looked like he had been beaten up. [Arroyo] did not look anything like that."

Arroyo was scheduled to leave for Hong Kong yesterday afternoon but canceled his trip at the last minute for still unknown reasons.

Airport sources said that Arroyo was booked on the Cathay Pacific flight CX 900 that was to leave at 12:30 p.m. yesterday but the President's husband was a no-show. *With a report from Nikko Dizon*

# Columnist Teddy Benigno…

From page A1

as press secretary to former President Corazon Aquino, succumbed to liver cancer, his family said.

Aquino was at the bedside of Benigno late Thursday, hours before he died, said her spokesperson, Lourdes Sytangco. "She lent him a rosary," Sytangco said.

In a statement, Aquino said she felt "sad and sorry" over Benigno's death. "I will not forget the good things he did for me and for the restoration of our democracy," the former leader said.

President Macapagal-Arroyo paid tribute to Benigno as a "gifted, erudite and thought-provoking" journalist who "wrote with flair and a fierce dedication to his principles as a journalist."

Benigno witnessed some of the Philippines' most turbulent times, especially during the martial law years under dictator Ferdinand Marcos when he was bureau chief of the French news agency, Agence France-Presse (AFP).

"The night Marcos declared martial law I knew, I instantly knew the world I had lived in since childhood had disappeared, disintegrated," he once wrote.

A founding member of the Foreign Correspondents Association of the Philippines (Focap), established to defend media freedom during martial law, Benigno's influence extended way beyond the Philippines.

### Hardest decision

When Marcos was toppled by a popular revolt in February 1986, Benigno was asked to join Aquino as press secretary, a decision which he described as one of "the hardest I had ever made."

But working on the other side of the fence was not for him and Benigno resigned in May 1989 to return to his one great love, writing. He resurrected his old sports column, "Here's the Score," in the Philippine Star on June 26, 1989. He also hosted two television talk shows, including the multi-awarded "Firing Line."

He continued writing his column up until a month ago when he was diagnosed with cancer.

Benigno started out in 1946 as a sportswriter and police reporter for the now defunct Manila Tribune.

He joined Agence France-Presse in 1950 as a senior editor and became its Manila bureau chief in 1962, a position he held with distinction for the next 25 years. He was briefly detained by the military in the early 1950s on suspicion he belonged to the underground communist party.

Benigno earned a master's degree in political science and studied French at the Institut de Sciences Politiques.

Fluent in French and an admirer of the country's culture and history, he was made a Knight of the National Order of Merit in 1980 and received the French Legion of Honor in 1989.

### An institution

"Teodoro Benigno was an institution in Agence France-Presse," said AFP chair Bertrand Eveno.

"He was both an avid Francophile and an ardent Filipino nationalist. Contemporaries inside the agency admired him not only for his informed reportage and incisive analysis, but also for the courage and passion which he brought into everything he did," Eveno said.

"I was considered French, with almost all of the rights and privileges of a French citizen. But I never ceded any right I had as a Filipino. I was still and remained a Filipino to the core," he wrote in the January 2005 edition of the Focap magazine.

"I remember Teddy as a tough, principled journalist during the final, tumultuous years of President Ferdinand Marcos," said David Briscoe, a former bureau chief of the Associated Press. "He fought battles for government access and ended up playing a key role in government himself. He'll be missed by colleagues and friends around the world."

Star Publisher and columnist Max Soliven said: "Philippine journalism has lost one of its greatest men.

"Teddy didn't regard journalism as a job … to him it was a mission. He loved his country and loved its people. We will miss him greatly."

Benigno left behind his wife Luz and son Mark, as well as daughter Nena from a previous marriage.

Benigno's body has been brought to Magallanes Church, where necrological services will be held on Monday at 7 p.m. His family said his burial will be on Tuesday at the Manila Memorial Park. *Ma. Ceres P. Doyo, Nikko Dizon, AFP, AP*

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# Laughter in Abu Sayyaf…

From page A1

to fill up?" defense lawyer Allene Peña asked confessed Abu Sayyaf member Gappal Bannah Asali.

"No. You just have to know how to pray and get someone to refer you to Abu Solaiman (Abu Sayyaf spokesperson)," replied a dead serious Asali.

Peña came back with: "You mean to say … as long as I know how to pray, I could be a member of the Abu Sayyaf?"

This time, Makati Regional Trial Court Branch 60 Judge Marissa Guillen, interrupted:

"No Ms Peña, I think the Abu Sayyaf has a certain height requirement," Guillen said in jest, making the petite defense lawyer chuckle.

Asali, who had turned state witness, was grilled for two hours on Thursday by Peña. The self-confessed bomb courier had testified that he trained in explosives assembly and detonation under the Abu Sayyaf.

"Could you safely assemble an explosive? What if there was a gas burner in front of you?" Peña asked.

"If your gas burner is not turned on, it will not pose [any] danger," Asali answered.

Then it was State Prosecutor Emmanuel Velasco's turn to ask Asali questions. He wanted to find out how well Asali knew Indonesian terror suspect Rohmat Abdurrohim, alias Jackie Zaky, who was also one of the accused.

Asali had earlier told the court that Abdurrohim phoned him before the deadly bomb attack to say that Abu Sayyaf members Angelo Trinidad and Gamal Baharan would retrieve from him some TNT, blasting caps and other ingredients to assemble explosives.

Abdurrohim, Trinidad and Baharan have been charged with multiple murder and multiple frustrated murder for the Valentine's Day bombing in Makati, which killed four people and injured 60 others.

Asali, who surrendered and confessed to authorities in March, also told the court that he was Abdurrohim's favorite student in martial arts, weapons handling, and bomb assembly. He said they often slept beside each other.

It was too good to resist. So the state prosecutor decided to pursue a curious line of questioning: "Judge, I hope you [will] allow me to ask this [question], no malice OK … Mr. Witness, kindly tell this court, is there any homosexual relationship between you and Zaky?" Velasco asked, referring to Abdurrohim by his nickname.

This time, the people in the courtroom, including the handcuffed Trinidad and Baharan, broke into laughter.

"Those of you laughing, laugh all you want because next time, you will be crying … You know who you are," said the judge, her tone forbidding.

The courtroom fell silent.

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# BIR duns Honda Cars for ₱590M in unpaid taxes

By Armand N. Nocum

GOING for the proverbial big fish, the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) yesterday said it had asked Honda Cars Phils. Inc. (HCPI) to settle unpaid taxes of half a billion pesos, or face seizure of their assets and property.

In a press briefing at the Department of Justice, BIR Commissioner Guillermo Parayno said a formal assessment of Honda's P589,994,109.02 alleged tax liabilities had already been made and forwarded to the BIR's "collection service."

"So, unless the matter is elevated to the higher court, which is the Court of Tax Appeals—which has not been done as of this time—then we will utilize all the legal remedies available to us, including garnishment and levy of property should our collection letter not be responded to," Parayno said.

Reached for comment, Honda Cars Philippines Inc. officials said they were not aware of any issues involving the company and the government's tax campaign.

The officials said they had not received any information from the BIR and that they would issue further statements after they had been apprised of the situation.

### Spurred by informer?

Parayno was at the Department of Justice to file tax evasion cases against several individuals in relation to the government's Run After Tax Evaders (RATE) program.

Parayno was apparently spurred by a letter from an "independent tax informer" who complained that while the BIR was going after actors, actresses and less known companies, it had dragged its foot in catching the big fish.

In a two-page letter, tax informant Danilo A. Lihaylihay said that, although he reported to BIR Honda's P589 million in tax deficiencies on July 2002, the BIR was slow in enforcing the collection of Honda's allegedly unpaid tax dues.

In giving BIR "Confidential Information No. 71-2002," Lihaylihay claimed that Honda's unpaid taxes involved income, value-added tax (VAT) and ad-valorem tax for year 2000-2001.

Lihaylihay said the amount of unpaid taxes was confirmed by BIR's National Investigation Division which issued an "assessment notice and collection demand [letter] to HCPI in June 2004."

### Warrant of garnishment

"That assessment and collection has been due and demandable since February 19, 2005," he said in his May 30 letter to Parayno. A copy of the letter has been sent to Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez.

According to Lihaylihay, he had sent Parayno a letter in November urging the latter to issue the "warrants of distraint, levy or garnishment against the bank deposits and assets of HCPI."

He said the BIR assessments "lapsed into finality when HCPI failed to submit to the BIR Appellate Division all relevant supporting documents within the 60-day period from the date of filing of the HCPI protest on July 19, 2004."

### Lifeblood of government

Lihaylihay then asked Parayno to enforce the collection, noting that numerous Supreme Court cases had declared that "taxes are the lifeblood of the government which must be collected without unnecessary hindrance."

Parayno said nonpayment of a final assessment of the BIR constituted "criminal violation."

"At this point in time, it's a legal issue. And we said this is the position of the BIR. We have a final assessment. We are not satisfied with the explanation that they have given, if that assessment becomes final in the meaning of the law and they don't pay it, then that's the time a criminal liability comes up," he said.

Parayno said Honda executives could be charged with "attempt to defeat or evade tax."

But even before that, he said, the BIR could already "take that legal remedy of garnishment of accounts or levy of property if the assessment becomes final and executory."

But right now, Honda can still appeal the matter before the Court of Tax Appeals, he said. *With a report from Ron Domingo*

# Herbal beauty traders face ₱160-M tax raps

From page A1

million in 2002.

Both amounts, according to Parayno, were underdeclaration of taxable income in violation of the National Internal Revenue Code.

Parayno explained that the expenditures method was based on the theory that if a taxpayer's expenditures during a given year exceeds the reported income, and the source of such expenditures is unexplained, such expenditures represent unreported income.

### Tax liabilities

In Tuyay's case, these expenditures were P157.5 million in 2001 and P12.5 million in 2002, according to the BIR.

Also, BIR documents showed that Tuyay had acquired pieces of property in Caloocan City and in San Miguel, Bulacan, worth several millions of pesos in 2001 and 2002.

On the other hand, the Kintanars' assessed combined tax liabilities amounted to P46 million. They failed to present books of accounts and other accounting records, and did not file any tax returns for 1999 and 2001, BIR officials said.

Certifications obtained by the BIR from FLP showed that Benjamin earned P58.5 million while Gloria earned P20.1 million from 1999 to 2001.

Parayno clarified that the Kintanar couple, and not FLP, was charged in their capacity as independent distributors of the products.

He said that FLP had, in fact, fully cooperated with the BIR in uncovering the tax scam.

"The public should realize by now that Operation: RATE [Run After Tax Evaders] is not a *ningas-cogon* [brush fire] program of the DOF," said Finance Undersecretary Emmanuel Bonoan.

### Blaze that sears

"It started as a blaze and will continue to sear tax evaders as we move on."

Parayno said that under the Operation: RATE program, the BIR had filed tax evasion cases against 20 companies and individuals on a weekly basis.

"We do not intend to rest or slow down until after all those in our list have been prosecuted," he said.

Finance Secretary Cesar Purisima said he was satisfied with the performance of Operation: RATE and the message that it was sending to the public—the government will not condone tax evasion.

### Rewards to continue

Purisima reminded the public that the DOF and the BIR would continue to give rewards of up to P1 million for information leading to the prosecution of tax evaders.

Licerio Evangelista, BIR deputy commissioner for criminal prosecution, described Kintanar as a "successful rags to riches story" with an alleged penchant for "luxury [sports utility vehicles] and cars like Ferrari, Lincoln Navigator and Mercedes Benz."

Jun Kintanar has become such a popular success story that he has been featured in major television stations and magazines when the topic of multi-level business crops up.

"However, despite their receipt of substantial amount of income and extravagant lifestyle, respondents did not file any income tax return and they likewise failed to pay the corresponding taxes," Evangelista said.

### Informers from within

Parayno said that what was significant in the Kintanar case was that an "informer" from within FLP provided the "confidential information" relative to Kintanar's tax liabilities.

He said that their program to reward informers was going very well, with BIR people receiving eight calls per hour.

"This is keeping our telephone lines very busy," he said.

Finance Undersecretary Emmanuel Bonoan, who heads the awards committee at the DOF, said the government had made it sure to process the rewards fast to encourage more people to come out.

"I think a lot of people are now disgusted at the way tax evasion is happening," he said, adding that employees felt some "injustice" was committed when taxes were withheld from them while their employers got away without paying what they should. *With a report from Armand N. Nocum*

# Palawan safe despite malaria scare, execs say

From page A1

pressions about the situation in Palawan, 30 loggers fell ill with suspected malaria in the northern province of Isabela, officials said. *(See related story on Page A18.)*

Reyster Langit, 33-year-old son of popular broadcaster Rey Langit and one of three media men who were stricken ill after visiting Palawan, died yesterday in a Los Angeles hospital more than a week after contracting cerebral malaria.

### DOH to investigate

"His heart gave out," his father said in a radio interview at dzMM. "There was a big chance that he would recover after getting a blood transfusion. Maybe the Lord wanted to bring him home. Secondly, maybe his heart gave out because of all the medical procedures."

Health Secretary Francisco Duque III said he had sent experts to investigate malaria cases in a remote area in Palawan, where the young Langit might have been afflicted with the disease.

Langit and his crew were conducting a research on the Tao't Bato tribe, which reportedly has been afflicted with cerebral malaria, said to be the deadliest type of the mosquito-borne disease.

One of his companions, Christian Macadaeg, died of the same ailment last Monday.

A third member of the team, Palawan-based dwIZ stringer and freelancer Jesus Christian Macadaeg, died in a Puerto Princesa hospital after suffering from multiple organ failure as a result of septicemia.

### Where malaria is endemic

Malaria is endemic in at least 65 provinces, Duque told reporters, citing figures from 2000.

Palawan falls under category A where 1,000 or more deaths due to malaria are recorded yearly, health officials said. Also on the list are Apayao, Tawi-Tawi, Quirino and Sulu.

Abra, Ilocos Norte, Tarlac, Bulacan, Maguindanao and Romblon belong to category B with 100 to 1,000 deaths per year. Benguet, Albay, Aklan, Cavite and Sorsogon registered less than 100 deaths during the same period.

Malaria cases were hardly existent in Cebu, Bohol, Iloilo, Biliran and Camiguin, according to the Department of Health.

### Deadly anopheles

The type that apparently afflicted the young Langit is caused by the parasite *plasmodium falcifarum* carried by anopheles mosquitos, health officials said.

Duque said incubation period for malaria was usually between seven and 14 days but could also extend to more than a month in some cases.

"When you're bitten, the common symptoms are severe headache, chill and weakening of the body," he said in a press conference. "Once you experience this, get a medical checkup right away."

Duque also advised people going to known malaria-infested areas to take prophylaxis at least two weeks in advance.

And once in the place, people should apply insect repellent, use mosquito nets and avoid applying perfumes because they attract mosquitoes, he said.

### Taking precautions

It is better to be ready, Duque said, even if the mortality rate for malaria is only 0.2 percent for every 100,000 cases.

Based on 2003 data, there were 588,836 suspected malaria cases in the country, of which 47,677 were confirmed to be malaria. A total of 162 of the victims died.

"We are not denying that there is malaria in Palawan. In fact, we are all doing something about it despite anemic national funds to fight it," Representative Mitra said.

"But because we are partially reliant on tourism receipts, we would like to erase the impression that the whole province is shivering in chills," Mitra added. "It is safe to visit Palawan. And malaria is avoidable, preventable and curable."

Mitra said that, like in South America's Amazon region, mosquitoes were part of "the lush landscape of the jungles of Palawan."

### Hot spot

"The wild comes with mosquitoes. They come with nature. You can't put a giant *katol* in the forest of Palawan to eradicate them all. The price of biodiversity includes the presence of insects," he said.

However, Mitra pointed out that the DOH website tagged a different region—Cagayan Valley—as the hot spot for malaria and not Southern Tagalog to which Palawan belongs.

"In fact, one province in Cagayan Valley has 18,500 cases and another has about 36,000 cases, which are twice and four times the number of cases for the whole of Southern Tagalog," he said.

### Breeding places

Governor Reyes said the habitat of malaria-carrying mosquitoes was usually found in the remote barangays or villages with dense forest areas, swamps and slow-moving rivers and lakes.

The government has intensified its efforts against malaria, he said.

According to the provincial health office, malaria ranks fifth among the causes of death in Palawan.

Since 1999, a group called Kilusan Ligtas Malaria (Movement Against Malaria) has been engaged in projects to eradicate the illness around the islands.

The Department of Tourism also said that Palawan remained safe for travelers.

Tourism Secretary Joseph Ace Durano said his office was closely coordinating with the local government units and the regional health office in the province to ensure the health of Palawan visitors.

"I would like to assure the public and our travelers that the government, especially the DOT and Department of Health are monitoring this to address the preventable disease," Durano said in a statement. *With reports from Jerome Aning*

## *Malaria downs 30 loggers in Isabela*

ILAGAN, Isabela—Health workers in the province have intensified their education drive against malaria after 30 loggers were stricken with the disease over a two-month period.

Dr. Susan Canciller, malaria coordinator of the Isabela provincial health office, said yesterday the loggers fell sick after staying for weeks in the mountains.

She said the victims were from Sindon Bayabo and Bintacan villages, both mountainous areas, near the Sierra Madre mountain ranges.

Canciller said no fatality had been reported among the loggers.

Provincial health records showed that malaria cases this year were lower compared to the previous years. Nineteen people died of malaria in the coastal town of Palanan in 2000.

Dr. Glenn Matthew Baggao, chief of the Faustino Dy Memorial Hospital in Calamagui 1st, said health workers launched the education campaign in malaria endemic areas.

He urged residents to observe cleanliness, use mosquito nets at night, and seek medical advice on malaria symptoms, such as fever, chills and excessive sweating. *Villamor Visaya Jr., PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

# Cha-cha call draws mixed reactions

From page A1

programs and getting the right people to execute them."

In a television interview on Thursday, Ms Arroyo said she would propose at the opening of Congress the calling of a constitutional convention to consider a shift to a federal-type parliamentary system as part of her medium-term economic development plan.

### Proposals at Congress

Gabriel Claudio, presidential adviser on political affairs, said he expects the chief executive to "define the timetable, direction and general substance" of her proposals on amending the 1987 Constitution when she delivers her State of the Nation Address on July 25.

Claudio, in a telephone interview, said the "logical and popular view" was for the holding of the election of convention delegates simultaneously with the 2007 elections. He said this would save on costs for the government.

Shrugging off suspicions on the renewed bid of the Arroyo administration to take on Charter changes, Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye said that Ms Arroyo has always been open for a review of the Constitution but wanted this done after her administration had implemented economic reforms.

Bunye, in a statement, said that economic conditions in the country are "ripe" for amending some provisions in the Constitution in order to "meet the challenges of global competition and improving the quality of life of the Filipino people."

"We are already taking the right path as far as strengthening our economy is concerned," he said. "But the momentum has to be strengthened for the Philippines to keep the strategic edge in the future." Bunye also said the President believes the present system of a separate executive branch and legislative branch is working for the good of the country.

"If we would look at the experience of our Asian neighbors, they all have a parliamentary system," Bunye said.

### Waiting for specifics

"We are waiting for the specifics like what form of government will she be proposing. If certain economic provisions will be deleted, what will be the replacements and how will these impact on the present state of things? We hope to hear this in her State of the Nation Address in July," Senator Recto said.

Recto, however, reminded the government that a constitutional convention is more costly than a constituent assembly and a people's initiative, two other modes allowed by law to amend the Constitution. He said the Commission on Election has estimated that a national election could cost at least P1.5 billion.

"This does not include the money for the operations of a convention," he said.

In a constitutional convention, the people will elect delegates to introduce amendments, while in a constituent assembly Congress will propose amendments. A people's initiative requires at least 12 percent of the electorate to propose amendments through a petition.

Rep. Rolando Andaya Jr., chair of the House appropriations committee, said he favored a constituent assembly. He said a convention is a "luxury" the country cannot afford in its current financial state. He said the manner of instituting constitutional change is not important. "It doesn't matter if the cat is black or white so long as it catches the mice," he said.

Rep. Ronaldo Puno of Antipolo of the pro-administration Kampi said he favored a convention. He said Kampi supported a change in the form of government. "Charter change is inescapable given the political reforms needed by the country," he told a news conference. *With reports from Philip C. Tubeza and Michael Lim Ubac*

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*Editor* **Ester G. Dipasupil**

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# 5,000 may lose jobs at MMDA

**By Tarra V. Quismundo**

THOUSANDS of Metropolitan Manila Development Authority employees stand to lose their jobs as the government begins to streamline the agency.

The restructuring is being done under the Notice of Organization, Staffing, and Compensation Action (Nosca) issued by the Department of Budget and Management (DBM).

DBM issued the Nosca in 2000, signed by then Secretary Benjamin Diokno, but its implementation was deferred.

However, faced with a looming fiscal crisis, the government has decided to push through with the reorganization.

"Many things happened between that year and now, but from the point of view of government, this is meant to remove redundant positions and offices and weed out undesirable employees," said an MMDA official privy to the Nosca.

Last year, the MMDA had a budget of P2.3 billion, which was reenacted this year after the Metro Manila Council failed to discuss the agency's proposed P2.37-billion funding for 2005.

According to the DBM, the MMDA should only have 2,655 regular positions.

Currently, the agency has 8,455 employees, including executives, administrative staff, traffic enforcers and metro aides.

The DBM further stated that metro aides should be co-terminous with the MMDA chair, and that the agency should have no more than 2,000 of these street sweepers.

"We are now in the process of evaluating the positions that would be abolished, and those that would be retained," said the ranking MMDA official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

He confirmed that MMDA personnel would be laid off undet the reorganization.

"Definitely, there would be employees who would be displaced," said the official.

The MMDA recently issued Memorandum Circular No. 03, which laid down the mechanics for the reorganization, and how employees should cope with the imminent change.

"The national government shall provide such amount as may be necessary to pay benefits accruing to the displaced employees," said the memo.

Thus, the agency offered two options to its employees who may be laid off: Avail of separation and early retirement benefits, or reapply with the agency.

Under the Nosca, employees to be displaced shall be paid the equivalent of one and one-fourth of their monthly salary for every year served in the agency.

"Many are opting for early retirement because, besides the money they would receive from the MMDA, they would be getting more from the (Government Service Insurance System) for early retirement," said another source, who refused to be named.

The positions to be retained at the MMDA is enumerated in a 113-page list now posted on a billboard at the lobby of the MMDA office.

However, the MMDA circular limits applicants to managerial positions to those 50 years old and below, and rank-and-file positions to applicants not older than 35.

# More woes in store for Dina

**By Tina G. Santos**

ACTRESS Dina Bonnevie and her constant companion, already facing charges of syndicated estafa for allegedly duping people into investing in a telecommunications company that did not deliver the goods, could be in for more trouble.

According to a source at the National Bureau of Investigation, the agency is considering filing charges of violating the anti-dummy law against the actress, Geraldyn Schaer Bonnevie in real life, and Timothy Calvin Ringgenberg, for allegedly using the names of their house help as incorporators of iFreedom Communications Corp.

By-Laws certificates of iFreedom issued by the Securities and Exchange Commission showed that the couple were not among the firm's incorporators. The only persons listed as such were Tessie Carreon, Roel Castillon, Francis Bonnevie, Rosalie dela Cruz and Arlene delos Reyes who, the NBI said, had "no capacity to put up a company."

The NBI said they found out that Carreon was a laundry woman and Castillon, a driver. The rest were just ordinary employees of the firm.

Bonnevie's and Ringgenberg's names as incorporators, however, were included in the amended Certificate of Incorporation and By-Laws, the NBI said.

Syndicated estafa charges had been filed by the NBI on Wednesday against Bonnevie and Ringgenberg, chair of the board and president of iFreedom, respectively.

Apart from the estafa charges, the couple were also charged with violation of the Securities Regulations Code, along with 13 other officers of the firm. The actress was implicated in the case because she is one of the firm's officials, it added.

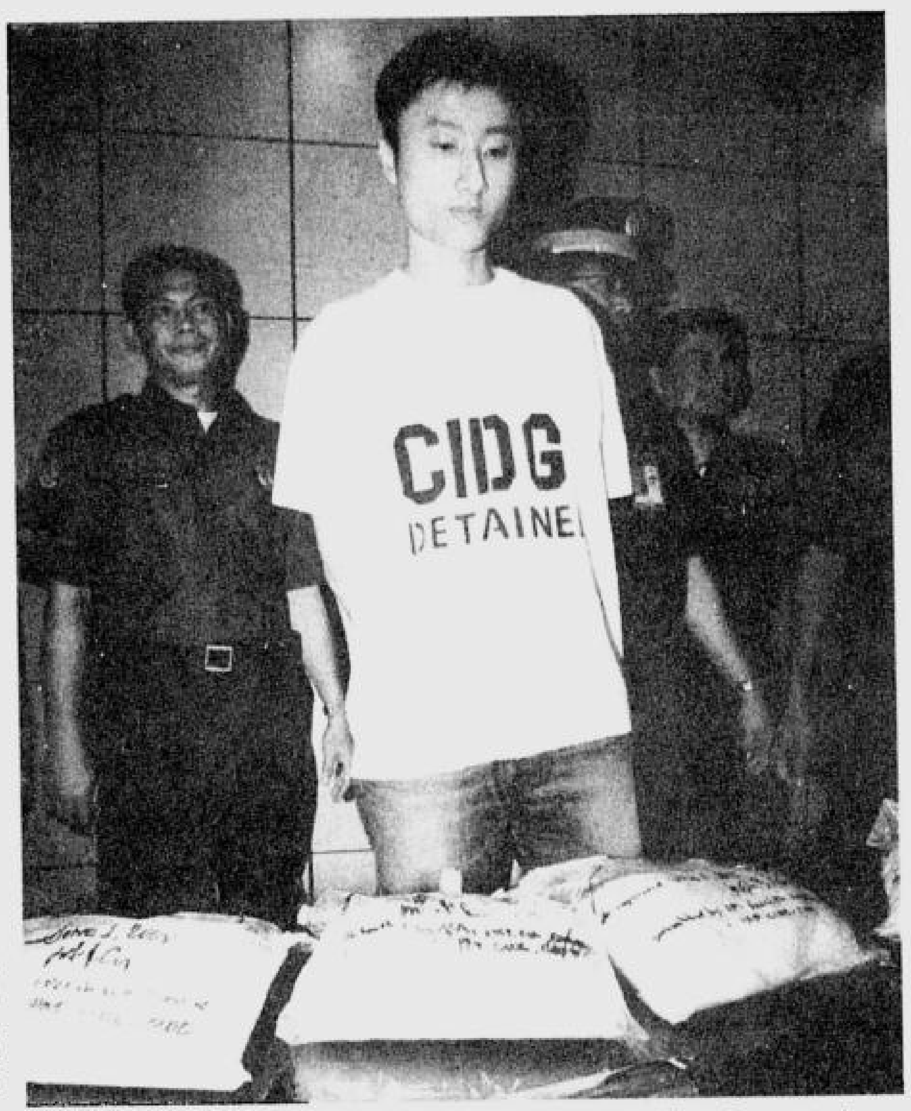
The case stemmed from complaints filed by five of the respondents' alleged victims. The NBI said about 40 to 50 more complainants are expected to file similar charges against the couple soon.

In another development, the United States Securities and Exchange Commission sent a letter to the NBI saying that Ringgenberg was also the subject of a civil complaint in October 2001 for violating a US SEC provision.

The letter said Ringgenberg had been charged for issuing misleading statements on the operations of his other firm NuEworld.comCommerce's revenues and projected share values.

Ringgenberg had apparently lured his US investors by promising them high investment returns. The same promise was made to local investors, who added they were also assured of big savings and stocks certificates that turned out to be fake.

INQUIRER repeatedly called iFreedom's local office numbers for comment but failed to get a connection.



**CHI HONG Wong, who was arrested for possession of four kilos of suspected shabu, is presented by police to media in Camp Crame.** VAL HANDUMON

# Panicky suspect leads police to shabu cache

**By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.**

HE PANICKED, and that gave him away.

Agents from the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group were looking for a car at the parking lot of a mall in Mandaluyong City the other day.

The car belonged to a suspected gun dealer, according to an informant.

But when the agents were looking for the car, a Chinese national came running and suddenly boarded a vehicle that was apparently the object of their search.

### Same model

Police caught up with the suspect as he ran to his car—a black Honda VTEC—the same model that was reportedly owned by the gun dealer.

A grocery bag was found on the car floor, police said. The bag allegedly contained four kilos of shabu.

### No ID

The suspect later identified himself as Chi Hong Wong, but could not present any identification card, according to Col. Alex Gutierrez.

Wong could not speak in English or Filipino, and police had to invite an interpreter during interrogation, he added.

The suspect had been staying in the country for about two years, CIDG public information officer Felix Vargas added.

The CIDG is still verifying his records with the Bureau of Immigration.

Police, however, have already traced the owner of the car in Plaridel, Bulacan.

## METROBRIEFS

### Baker admits Taguig murder

REVENGE and a cruel past drove him to kill. That was the claim of 22-year-old Albert Leonor, who, police said, admitted being the mastermind of the grisly killing of the Napura family in Taguig City. Leonor, a baker earlier dismissed for absenteeism, reportedly said that the refusal of his employer Hayda Napura, 44, drove him to get back at her. He also said that the memory of the beheading of his father and uncle emboldened him to lead the brutal killing of Napura; her husband Antonio, 54; adopted daughter, Haidi, 3, and househelper Tata Netis, 18, on Sunday night inside their house in ISG Central, Sitio Sto. Niño, Barangay Western Bicutan, Taguig. According to police, Leonor admitted strangling Napura and cutting off her head, which he later threw in a garbage heap in Guadalupe, Makati City. *Tarra V. Quismundo*

### Witnesses tag robbery suspects

A POLICEMAN and a security guard have been tagged by witnesses as among several men who robbed an Allied Bank branch in Manila on Tuesday. Western Police District investigator PO3 Genaro Tan said two witnesses saw PO1 Joselito Verdeflor jumping over the fence after the heist and hurriedly removing the fatigues he was wearing. Another witness also saw Verdeflor inside the bank while the robbery was taking place. Meanwhile, a witness outside the bank saw security guard Vicente Fagutao fleeing the crime scene on a motorbike. Verdeflor, Fagutao, PO1 Glenn Abardolasa, and security guards Allan Lucban and Charlando Bediones were arrested in Pasay City after the incident.

*Miko Morelos, trainee*

### Jess Cruz; 70

NEWSPAPER columnist Jesus "Jess" Q. Cruz died yesterday of a heart attack at the UST Hospital. He was 70 years old. Until recently, he penned the column "Moonlighter" for the Philippine Star. Cruz graduated summa cum laude from the Far Eastern University with a degree in English, and received his MA in Creative Writing from the Ateneo de Manila in 1964. He taught English and Literature at FEU for 48 years. A former US Fulbright-Hayes scholar and two-time Palanca awardee, Cruz also wrote for Manila Bulletin, Manila Chronicle, Focus Philippines and Manila Standard. He was supposed to receive today a citation for getting the highest student evaluation of all faculty members at FEU's Institute for Arts and Sciences for the second semester of 2004-2005. His remains lie at Funeraria Paz in Quezon City. Interment details will follow.

# An oppressed foreigner

**ON TARGET**
*Ramon Tulfo*

TAKE a Filipino housemaid in Saudi Arabia who is arrested on a trumped-up charge of theft by her employer. She has no relatives to turn to, no money to spend for her court defense.

The entire machinery of government is ranged against the poor maid because her employer is very influential.

The Pinay could only cry and look to heaven for help.

Now, reverse the situation. A drop-dead gorgeous Caucasian woman is arrested on a trumped-up charge of frustrated parricide by her Filipino husband who's a confessed drug user. The foreigner faces imminent deportation. She has no relatives to turn to, she has no embassy here, and she's in jail on the frustrated parricide charge.

The first example is apocryphal; the second, about the case of the foreigner, is true to life.

Katsiaryna "Katti" Aleinik Colet, 23, of Minsk, Belarus, is in jail at Camp Crame after her husband charged her with frustrated parricide.

Baldomero "Bobby" Colet, 52, of the prominent clan in Pangasinan, and a radio commentator, said Katti struck him in the head with a bottle during a fight.

But Katti said she was only defending herself when she did that. Bobby was beating her up when she got hold of a bottle and took a swing at him. It was an impulsive act, her reaction to the pain being inflicted on her by her husband.

The court set Katti's bail at P200,000. She has to put up a P45,000 premium.

With no relatives or embassy in Manila (the Philippines still doesn't have diplomatic relations with Belarus) to run to, where would Katti get the money for her bail?

Where's Gabriela or other cause-oriented women's groups?

* * *

The recent order by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) revoking the registration of Lifetime Plans Inc. (LPI) has created more problems than solutions to more than 400,000 planholders. These planholders used to belong to the beleaguered Pacific Plans Inc. (PPI).

Also adversely affected are the 34,000 open-ended planholders who remained under PPI after the creation and spin-off of LPI.

Also hurt are 15,000 LPI employees and members of its sales force.

In short, LPI and PPI might just fold up and planholders would not be paid. Employees would lose their jobs.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE & INDUSTRY PHILIPPINES
BUREAU OF PRODUCT STANDARDS
Department of Trade and Industry
Republic of the Philippines

**Department Administrative Order 05**
**Series of 2005**

SUBJECT: ADDENDUM/ERRATUM ON THE DECLARATION OF MORATORIUM/NON-ACCEPTANCE OF PRIVATE EMISSION TESTING CENTERS' (PETCs) APPLICATION IN SPECIFIC SERVICE AREAS BASED ON RECOMMENDATION OF DTI REGIONAL DIRECTORS

In accordance with DAO 07:2004 "Declaration of Moratorium/Non-Acceptance of Private Emission Testing Centers' (PETCs) Application in specific Service Areas based on the recommendation of DTI Regional Directors," attached is the list of addendum and erratum of service areas covered by moratorium/non-acceptance of PETC application.

All applications received after the cut-off date shall only be processed for accreditation only when it meets the requirements stipulated in the last paragraph (d) of BPS Memorandum Circular 12:2003.

In connection with the declaration of moratorium, DTI Regional/Provincial Offices are mandated to conduct a review and evaluation of the effectivity of moratorium in their respected area of jurisdiction or responsibility after one year of its implementation and recommend to the DTI Secretary thru BPS whether to maintain or lift the moratorium in their respective areas.

This Department Administrative Order shall take effect fifteen days (15) after publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

(Sgd.) **JUAN B. SANTOS**
Acting Secretary

ANNEX II

**LIST OF SERVICE AREAS COVERED BY MORATORIUM/ NON-ACCEPTANCE OF PETC APPLICATION (ADDENDUM)**

| Region | Province | DOTC/LTO District Office |
|---|---|---|
| Region 1 | Ilocos Sur | Vigan |
| | | Candon |
| | La Union | San Fernando |
| | | Naguilian Extension |
| | | Agoo Extension |
| Region 2 | Batanes | Aparri, Aritao, Basco, Bayombong, Cabagan Extension, Cabarroguis, Cauayan Ext., Gattaran Ext., Ilagan, Tuao Ext., Roxas D.O., Sanchez Mira Ext., San Isidro, Santiago Ext., Tuguegarao |
| | Cagayan | |
| | Isabela | |
| | Nueva Vizcaya | |
| | Quirino | |
| Region 4B | Oriental Mindoro | Calapan |
| Region 12 | South Cotabato | Polomolok Extension |
| | | Surallah |
| | | Koronadal |
| | | General Santos City |
| | Sarangani Province | Sarangani |

**ERRATUM OF ANNEX I**

**FROM**

| Region | Province | DOTC/LTO District Office |
|---|---|---|
| Region 3 | Tarlac | Cabanatuan City |
| | | Baloc |
| | | San Jose City |
| | | Palayan City |
| Region 6 | Aklan | Kalibo |

**TO**

| Region | Province | DOTC/LTO District Office |
|---|---|---|
| Region 3 | Nueva Ecija | Cabanatuan City |
| | | Baloc |
| | | San Jose City |
| | | Palayan City |
| Region 6 | NO MORATORIUM DECLARED | |

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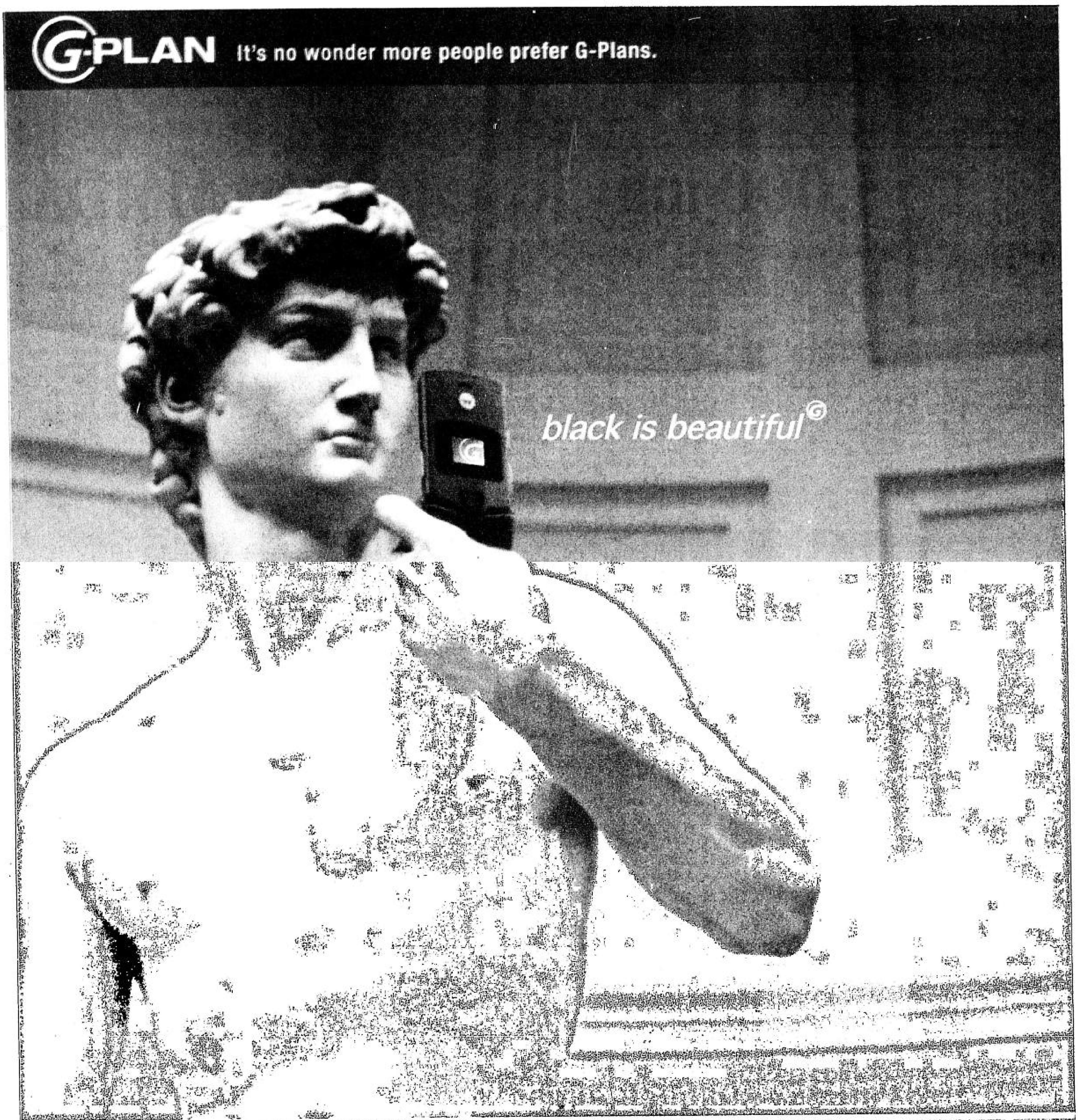

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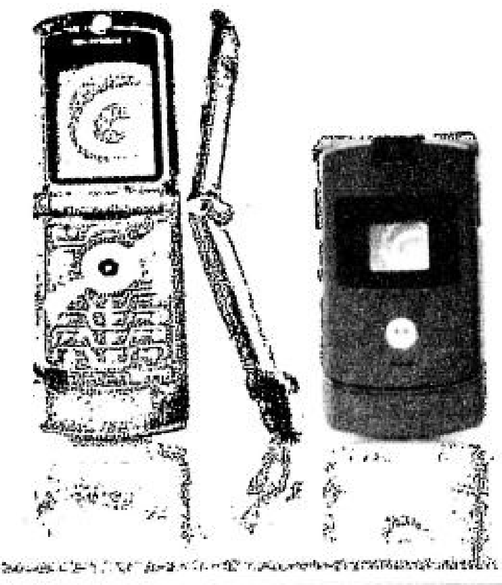

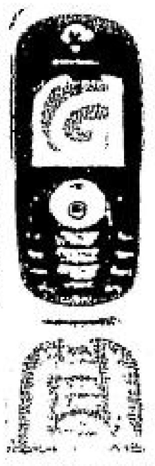
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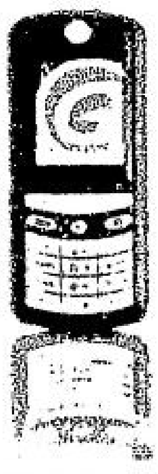
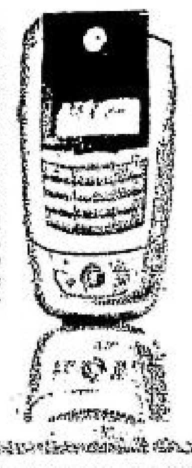

E398 ₱2,000 on G-Plan 1200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# Davadilla virtual Tour winner

## *Tanduay skipper hangs tough as Tanguilig repeats Baguio stage victory*

By Marc Anthony Reyes

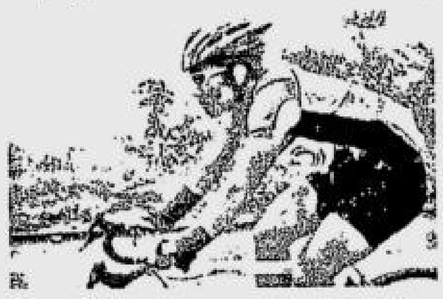
**BAGUIO CITY—Defending champion Rhyan Tanguilig regained a measure of pride by ruling the Golden Tour's highlight stage here yesterday, but it was Warren Davadilla who emerged the biggest winner by successfully defending the yellow jersey for the seventh straight day and moving just two stages away from his second Tour title.**

Tanguilig, who won last year's Tour by seizing the overall lead for good in the same Baguio-to-Baguio stage—extended to 207 km yesterday and re-routed to skip Kennon Road which was closed due to landslides—finished with a time of six hours, 16 minutes and 34 seconds.

But the PLDT skipper offered his hand to Davadilla at the finish line, acknowledging the imminent second victory of the 1998 Centennial champion in the annual bikathon.

The 30-year-old Davadilla impressed Tour watchers again with his staying power as he finished the stage just 3 minutes and 27 seconds off Tanguilig in fourth place.

With an overall lead of 1 minute and 9 seconds over second-running Frederick Feliciano going into today's stage, Davadilla is expected to match the twin victories achieved by only seven riders before him.



**TANGUILIG** pushes on along Naguilian Road, 5 km to the finish. BOY CABRIDO

Seven minutes and 20 seconds off Davadilla at the start of yesterday's killer stage, Tanguilig vaulted from sixth place to third, but still looked hopelessly out of it.

Davadilla, one of the bright lights of the national team, holds a lead of three minutes and 42 seconds over Tanguilig as the Tour descends to Angeles City today and then on to Rizal Park tomorrow for the concluding stage.

"It's over," Feliciano said of his chances of overhauling the deficit. "It's not possible anymore. This stage was my last shot at the title. The next stages will be flat and easy."

Feliciano, the VAT Riders captain who has suffered from conjunctivitis since the Tour's kickoff stage last week, kept the pressure all stage long on Davadilla only to fall short despite finishing second, along with Danny Ganigan of Guerrero Brandy, to Tanguilig, 2:07 behind.

A good 2:33 minutes off the lead at the start of the stage, just 12 seconds behind former champion Arnel Quirimit, Feliciano still managed to cut Davadilla's lead by 1:26 minutes.

The Aliaga, Nueva Ecija rider who won the 5th stage in Alaminos, Pangasinan, said he had expected Davadilla to fade after the first loop via Marcos Highway and Naguillan.

"*Ako ang nalaspag* (I got burned instead)," said Feliciano as he took off cell phone cords wrapped around his body as well as the assortment of painkiller spray cans tucked in his jersey.

Davadilla, who held the yellow jersey for a record 14 straight days when he won the title seven years ago, remained modest about his imminent victory.

Asked if he could already smell victory, he replied: "*Medyo.*"

Davadilla is also assured of the King of the Mountain award.

Marked for long stretches by teammates of Davadilla and Feliciano, Quirimit checked in 21st, 15:50 minutes behind Tanguilig, and nosedived to eighth place overall. He stood 14:44 minutes off Davadilla.

The day's casualties were veteran Loreto Mandi of PLDT who retired due to fatigue, and Allan Ricafort of Touch Mobile who was treated for symptoms of hypothermia, according to Sports Radio's Snow Badua. A motorcycle-riding cameraman was also hurt in a spill.

**OVERALL** leader Warren Davadilla (in yellow jersey) takes a sip of water in the middle of the main peloton as it passes the center of Agoo, La Union. Davadilla later led a chase group that shadowed Tanguilig up to the second climb to Baguio. BOY CABRIDO

A father of one and expecting another child, Davadilla kept in touch with Tanguilig and Feliciano in the third group during the second descent, just 2:30 off the pace set by Lito Atilano in a solo breakaway.

But Atilano, the Malolos-Olongapo stage winner, soon lost steam and surrendered the lead in the rain to the hard-charging Tanguilig, who finally pushed his white Vellum bike in front with only 17 km left.

"*Pang*-stage win *lang* (I'm only good for a stage win)," said Tanguilig, the pride of Aritao, Nueva Vizcaya, who erased Enrique Domingo's eight-minute lead in the same stage last year to win the summer spectacle on wheels.

# Team plum in the bag for Colt 45

BAGUIO CITY—Warren Davadilla finished a fighting fourth in the punishing eighth stage of the Tanduay presents…Golden Tour 50@'05 yesterday, leading another strong day for Colt 45 which virtually wrapped up the team event with still two stages left.

Davadilla, the overall individual leader since Stage 2, Johnny Dasalla, Michael Reyes and Dennis Marañа all finished inside the Top 20 in the 207-km leg that started and ended at the Burnham Park here for a total time of 25:51:40.170.

Colt 45 now has a 34-minute 25.779-second lead over Tourism and a 37:33.431-min advantage over Metro Drug with two easy laps left before the annual summer spectacle winds up at the Baywalk in Manila tomorrow.

Guerrero Brandy sputtered for the second straight day and dropped to seventh from fourth overall, now close to one hour off the pace and with very little chance of snaring a top three finish.

Danny Ganigan, the Guerrero assistant skipper, finished second, just over two minutes behind winner Rhyan Tanguilig for the lap. But the team's fourth man, Daniel Cagas, checked in more than 27 minutes behind.

## Stage 8 results

**STAGE RESULTS**

1. R. Tanguilig, PLDT, 6 hrs 16 mins 34 secs
2. D. Ganigan, Guerrero Brandy, 2 mins 7 secs behind
3. E. Feliciano, VAT Riders, same
4. W. Davadilla, Colt 45, 3:27

STAGE/ A22

**WHAT'S INSIDE**

- Villanueva escapes suspension /A22
- Miami nears NBA finals /A24

# Elizalde backs POC move to expel BAP

By Musong R. Castillo

INTERNATIONAL Olympic Committee representative to the Philippines Frank Elizalde yesterday backed the local Olympic body's move to expel the Basketball Association of the Philippines.

"It's not that simple, but you have my support," a POC press officer quoted Elizalde as telling POC president Jose "Peping" Cojuangco during a meeting in Dasmariñas village Wednesday night.

The POC has put in motion a move to expel the BAP after suspending the cage body two weeks ago for repudiating an agreement on the formation of the national basketball teams to two international events this year.

The expulsion of a national sports association from the POC requires at least a three-fourths vote—or 30 votes—from the 39-member body.

A new member can take over from an old one, and given recognition by the POC, only after this process has been completed.

Cojuangco had tapped retired PNP chief and badminton association vice president Edgardo Aglipay as head of a special group that will write and pass a new set of constitution and by-laws for official recognition by the international basketball federation (Fiba).

Aglipay said the new agency's name will be the Philippine Basketball Federation, Inc. It plans to seek Fiba recognition before the end of next week.

Meanwhile, the Philippine Sports Commission is expected to padlock the offices of the BAP at the Rizal Memorial Sports Complex next week.

The PSC was formally informed of the BAP suspension by the POC yesterday.

Aside from the closure of the BAP offices, the PSC has also been asked to stop government financial support to the association.

# La Salle spikers eye title vs Tams

IT WILL be University of the East against Adamson for the women's crown and La Salle against Far Eastern for the men's title of the first FC Toribio Seniors Volleyball Cup at the EARIST Gym today.

UE advanced to the women's finals by beating College of Saint Benilde in Thursday's knockout semifinals, 25-20, 19-25, 25-18, 14-25, 15-13, while Adamson clinched its berth at the expense of FEU, 25-13, 25-21, 20-25, 25-19.

The UE-Adamson finals tussle is set at 10:30 a.m. today, right after the match for third place between Saint Benilde and FEU at 9 a.m.

La Salle nipped Saint Benilde, 25-23, 25-20, 25-23, also last Thursday and will battle FEU at 1:30 p.m. today for the championship. FEU defeated UP, 22-25, 25-15, 26-19, 25-23.

The battle for third place between Saint Benilde and UP in men's play will be played at 12 noon. The tournament is organized by Brenn Perez and Luz Santa Ana in honor of UE's winningest UAAP coach, Francisco "Bitner" Toribio.

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# RP five yields to Jordan, bows out of Champs Cup

By June Navarro

**ANTIPOLO CITY—RP-San Miguel lost grip when victory was within grasp and the Nationals yielded to Jordan-Fastlink, 86-83, and bowed out of contention in the FedEx Fiba-Asia Champions Cup last night at the Yñares Center here.**

With Renren Ritualo and Jimmy Alapag firing at will, the Nationals almost completed a huge turnaround from 18 points down only to kneel over on atrocious free-throw shooting.

Nic Belasco flubbed his charities and Alapag split his trips to the stripe that could have trimmed Jordan's 85-80 lead to a single basket down to the final minute of play.

Prior to that, Ritualo fired three straight triples while Alapag aggressively attacked the basket, scoring and at the same time feeding Yancy De Ocampo and Belasco inside, that erased a menacing 82-64 RP deficit.

The Nationals, who were relegated in a battle for fifth-eighth places against Syria today, suffered their third straight loss after winning their first two assignments.

"We lost those three games against teams with excellent imports," said RP coach Chot Reyes. "Those were games that we could have won."

Ritualo fired six of his nine three-point attempts and topscored with 21 points while Mark Caguioa and Alapag added 13 each for the Nationals, who led in the first frame, 24-18, before the Jordanians surged ahead on Thurman's incursions.

Reyes also rued the fact that the coaching staff had been utilizing all of its players every game.

"If we shorten the rotation, it could have been a different outcome altogether," said Reyes.

In other games, Iran and Qatar encountered stiff resistance before downing their respective opponents last night to march into the semifinals.

The Iranians held their ground against the stubborn Syrians and escaped with a thrilling 76-65 win while the Qataris registered a hard-earned 89-82 victory over Kazakhstan as the two countries nailed two of the outright semifinal slots.

Later in the day, Lebanon outsteadied Kuwait, 95-92, to arrange a semifinal encounter with Qatar, which, along with Iran, topped their respective brackets after sweeping all their five assignments.

In the first game, India took ninth place and escaped the ignominy of finishing last by drubbing United Arab Emirates, 92-82, in the tournament organized by the Basketball Association of the Philippines.

The scores

**JORDAN-FASTLINK 86**—Thurman 28, Shwabzoka 14, Daghles 14, Lelt 11, Deis 11, Ireifej 8.

**RP-SMC 83**—Ritualo 21, Alapag 13, Caguioa 13, Belasco 12, Villanueva 6, Adducul 6, De Ocampo 4, Dela Cruz 3, Reavis 2, Thoss 2, Miller 1.

**Quarters:** 18-24, 39-38, 71-59, 86-83

VILLANUEVA (second from left) appears surprised by the unsportsmanlike foul called on him. RAMON VECINA

## Villanueva escapes suspension

ENRICO Villanueva escaped suspension for engaging Lebanon's Stephen Howard in a wrestling match in the FedEx Fiba-Asia Champions Cup Thursday night.

The 6-foot-6 banger out of Ateneo was just coming to the rescue of Yancy de Ocampo, who was supposedly being confronted by the import. Howard had just taken a hard foul from Mark Caguioa.

Unlike in the PBA, international rules do not call for automatic suspensions on players tagged with unsportsmanlike fouls.

National coach Chot Reyes defended Villanueva and questioned the referees' decision to keep Howard in the match.

"We were being pushed around like kids," said RP coach Chot Reyes minutes after the Nationals suffered a 90-100 defeat against Lebanon. "We don't want them to bully us like that so I gave the go-signal for the players to get physical and meet Lebanon head-on." *June Navarro*

**EASY does it for Filipino pool legend Efren "Bata" Reyes as he moves on to the second round of the Manila leg of the San Miguel Beer Asian 9-Ball Tour after defeating Luong Chi Dung of Vietnam. Reyes was the Tour's winningest player last year.**

## Bata, Django hurdle rivals

EFREN "Bata" Reyes and Gandy Valle opened their respective bids with easy victories in the first round of the final leg of the San Miguel Asian 9-Ball Tour at the Robinsons Galleria Trade Hall yesterday.

Another Filipino hotshot, Francisco "Django" Bustamante, however, lirted with disaster before edging Kuo Po-cheng of Chinese Taipei, 9-8, in a night encounter.

Reyes defeated Luong Chi Dung of Vietnam, 9-4, while Valle downed Chan Ken Kwang of Singapore, 9-5.

The 50-year-old Reyes, winner of the second leg in Jakarta, was actually tied with the Vietnamese, 4-4, but the Filipino pool legend cleaned the final five racks to claim the victory in the event organized by ESPN Star Sports.

Valle, who clinched the first leg in Singapore earlier this year, raced to a 6-2 edge before allowing his opponent to trim the lead to 7-5. The Davao native then went back to business and won the last two racks to seal the outcome.

Reyes advanced to the second round where he will meet Kaohsiung leg runner-up Au Chi-wai of Hong Kong. Au edged Muhammad Zulfikri of Indonesia, 9- 8.

Valle will take on Satoshi Kawabata of Japan in the round of 16. Kawabata waylaid Tepwin Arunnath of Thailand, 9-3.

Qualifier Ramil Gallego was not as fortunate as his countrymen as he bowed out after yielding to Li Hewen of China, 4-9.

Not to be outdone, Taiwanese Chao Fong-pang and Wu Chia-ching also prevailed in their respective matches.

Chao, a two-time World Pool champion, defeated Ibrahim Bin Amir of Malaysia, 9-6, while the 16-year-old Wu took down Park Shin Young of Korea, 9-3.

Bustamante had two scratches in the 11th and 14th rack, but managed to pull off the victory and advance to the second round.

Kuo had a chance to equalize the score in the 17th rack, but the Taiwanese made a scratch on the break.

Bustamante will next face Patrick Ooi of Malaysia, late Friday evening.

Meanwhile, Antonio "Nikoy" Lining had an easier road to victory as he trounced Yudarman Kamarudin of Indonesia, 9-4. Lining meets Vu Trong Kai of Vietnam next.

Now in its third year, the San Miguel Asian 9-Ball Tour is offering a total pot of $50,000 at this weekend's final stop in Manila. The champion will get $10,000. The main draw includes 32 top Asian players from 11 countries.

The San Miguel Asian 9-Ball Tour is sanctioned by the Asian Pocket Billiard Union and co-organized by ESPN Star Sports' Event Management Group (EMG) and Puyat Sports.

## Stage 8 Results

From page A21

5. S. Diamsay, Tourism, 3:32
6. L. Atilano, Metro Drug, 6:21
7. J. Dasalla, Colt 45, 10:30
8. B. Ravina, Go 21, 14:07
9. G. Gines, Custom 14:11
10. J. Paras, Go 21, 14:48
11. M. Primero, Custom, 15:22
12. M. Reyes, Colt 45, 15:34
13. E. Quinones, Custom, same
14. A. Benosa, Touch Mobile , same
15. F. Alagano, Metro Drug, same
16. J. Garillo, Tourism , same
17. D. Hardin, Custom, same
18. R. Navarro, Custom, same

**OVERALL INDIVIDUAL**

1. W. Davadilla, Colt 45, 32 hours 2 minutes 45 seconds
2. E. Feliciano, VAT Riders, 1 minute 9 seconds behind
3. R. Tanguilig, PLDT, 3:42
4. L. Atilano, Metro Drug, 6:35
5. J. Dasalla, Colt 45, 9:56
6. S. Diamsay, Tourism, 11:38
7. D. Ganigan, Guerrero Brandy, 14:20
8. A. Quirimit, Tourism, 14:44
9. A. Benosa, Touch Mobile, 19:37
10. R. Navarro, Custom, 20:13
11. B. Ravina, Go 21, 22:08
12. F. Alagano, Metro Drug, 23:07
13. M. Primero, Custom, 23:36
14. D. Marana, Colt 45, 25:14
15. E. Quinones, Custom, 26:21
16. M. Reyes, Colt 45, 26:38
17. S. Barnachea, Touch Mobile, 26:54

## Cardona agent blames Yturri

IN HUDDLE

*Beth Celis*

NBA ROOKIE Dwight Howard of the Orlando Magic speaks in such hushed tones you either have to keep your ear close to his lips or be a lip reader to make out what he's saying.

I tried both yesterday during an exclusive interview with the 19-year-old 2004-05 top draft pick at the Manila Peninsula hotel in Makati.

Soft-spoken and courteous, you can tell right off that Dwight is okay as a person. He said the Philippines is his first trip out of the United States and he finds the place "beautiful." I told him he reminded me of Kobe Bryant who, like him, had visited Manila when he was only 19. Kobe was also so amiable then.

Accompanied by his parents who were both basketball players in their youth, Dwight is here as guest of the NBA Madness. I asked him if he was going to do some flashy plays like Kobe did when he was here, which endeared him to the Filipinos, but it looks like the organizers of the event have other things in mind.

Straight out of high school and into the NBA, Dwight said he felt no pressure to perform being the top draft pick.

"No pressure. I just did my job," he said. "Playing in the NBA has been a good experience, I have learned a lot, so far."

He admitted, though, that he was heartbroken when his team failed to make it to the playoffs. He hopes to win five to six championships in the future.

Dwight bought his mom and dad a new home in Atlanta with his first salary. He said he intends to go to college as soon as he finds time for it. And since he loves acting, he said he would most likely pursue an acting course.

***

**In defense of his client Mark Cardona who, he said, could be one of the key players alluded to as being under a cloud of suspicion after the PBL's Harbour Centre lost four games in a row to bow out of the Unity Cup semis, player agent Mike Gonzales called to inform us that MacMac is in fact so upset because of the Portmasters' disqualification.**

"Understandably so since he would've earned P90,000 in bonus if Harbour became champion. Was anybody willing to pay more than that to make him lose a game?" Mike asked.

MacMac, he said, had wanted the MVP award so much, he could taste it.

"The other players gave up fighting because of Tonichi Yturri's system, training method, negative and poor motivational techniques, poor judgment calls, etc. If anyone should be blamed for the skid, it is the coach and not the players," Mike said.

***

Coincidentally, I bumped into Harbour Centre owner Mikee Romero who was having lunch at a Japanese restaurant in Greenhills with Derrick and Dindo Pumaren and San Juan Mayor JV Ejercito the other day.

Mayor JV, who is the "architect" of the new, state-of-the-art basketball stadium in Pinaglabanan, which will soon house the PBL, said the project was part of his father's master plan when he was still mayor of San Juan years ago.

The 5,000-seat capacity stadium is fully air-conditioned, he said, and parking should be no problem since a 4-story parking building is being erected nearby. JV said even PBA commissioner Noli Eala has dropped by to inspect the place and may consider it as a PBA venue.

The edifice will be finished in October, in time for the opening of the next PBL conference.

***

**Jaworski die-hard Larry Desiderio of San Pedro, Bustos, Bulacan, isn't buying the Big J's excuse—whatever it might be—for not playing in the Greatest Game last Saturday during the PBA's 30th anniversary celebration.**

"*Kahit na sana* 3-4 minutes *lang* in the fourth quarter, *naglaro siya* with Mon Fernandez, OK *na 'yun*, just like in the Crispa-Toyota revival last year when a lot of people went home happy," said Larry, who is not about to forgive his idol for this sin in the next 10 years.

"*Mabuti pa si* Samboy Lim, *may injury pero naglaro. Marami siyang taong pinasaya. Pati si* Allan Caidic *na ang galing-galing pa at walang kakupas-kupas. Marami ang napuyat at nainis sa kahihintay* for Jaworski to play. *Sa ginawa niya, hindi na siya makababalik sa Senado.*

"*Wala na ang karisma niya. Nagbayad ang mga tao para makita siyang maglaro, kahit na nga* fun game *lang 'yun. Wala siyang makukuhang boto dito sa amin kapag kumandidato siya!*"

Whoa, Larry, the Living Legend is your most revered icon, remember?

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# Welcoat, Montaña shoot for PBL finals berths

WELCOAT coach Caloy Garcia is expecting more from his main man.

Anthony Washington delivered 16 points and 11 rebounds in Welcoat's Game 2 win, but Garcia has seen better production from the prized 6-foot-7 forward.

"Washington is capable of a better game than that," said Garcia as the Paintmasters gun for a finals berth against Magnolia Ice Cream in the PBL Unity Cup today. "I think he's pressured against (Kelly) Williams, who just came in but he's already winning games for Magnolia."

Washington and Williams have indeed shown vast talent to lead their teams, but they'll again prove who's the better Fil-Am find at 4 p.m. at the JCSGO Gym in Cubao.

Montaña Pawnshop will also try to wrap up its semifinal series against tenacious Granny Goose at 2 p.m.

But the Kornets, who finished sixth in the elimination round, have shown impressive resolve to beat the odds.

"Our defense worked," said coach Jun Tan after the Kornets thwarted the Jewels' finals bid last Thursday, 65-61. "Our target was to limit them to less than 65 points and we were able to do it."

**GAMES TODAY (*JCSGO Gym, Cubao, QC*)**
2 p.m.—Montaña vs Granny Goose
4 p.m.—Welcoat vs Magnolia

Tan knows, however, that Game 3 could be a different story.

"Coach Robert (Sison) will surely adjust," he said. "But we'll be ready, especially with their full-court press."

Garcia, too, agreed that Welcoat could not ride high on its 2-1 semifinal lead after halting Magnolia's six-game winning streak, 76-65, last Thursday.

WASHINGTON

"As of now, it's still 50-50," he noted. "I don't believe in momentum. It will just be the attitude, who wants to win the game more."

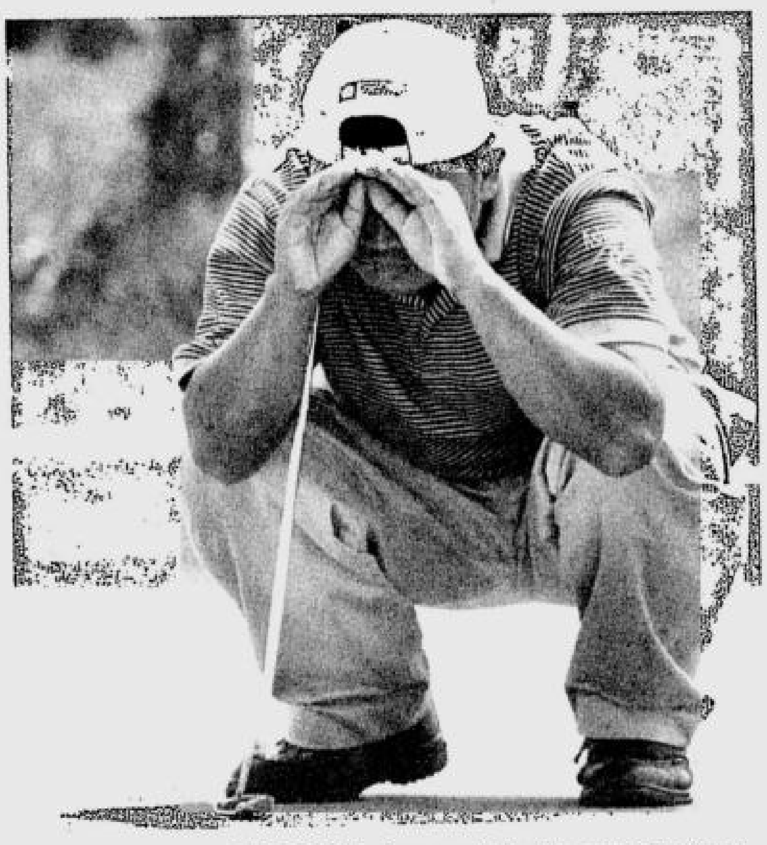
Aside from Washington, Welcoat turned to the perimeter-shooting of Jojo Tangkay, who drilled eight of his 14 points in the last five minutes.

Kornets big man JR Quiñahan also found support in Jett Latonio and Marvin Cruz in the final quarter.

Arwind Santos led Magnolia's charge with 17 points, but was held scoreless in the fourth period. Williams also needs to regain his dominating form after delivering his lowest output of 12 points and 14 rebounds.

Montaña leaders Jon Dan Salvador and Alex Compton, too, have to find their offensive touch again after combining foı only 13 points. *Jasmine W. Payo*

# Saragosa coasts to 3-shot win at N'woods


**SARAGOSA** advances to the Samsung Amateur grand finals for the third straight year. PDI PHOTO

**SAN RAFAEL, Bulacan—With his heartbreaking grand finals defeat to the host club's best bet last season still fresh in mind, Boyet Saragosa exacted a measure of revenge after he cruised to a three-shot victory in the Samsung Amateur Tour's kickoff leg at Royal Northwoods Golf and Country Club here.**

Saragosa kept his rivals at bay in the front nine and held on the rest of the way to beat Mario Labajo for the championship division title and earn his third straight trip to next year's finals of this course-hopping series with a 285 aggregate.

Saragosa's round of 68 and 70 in the second and third rounds sent him streaking to a seven-shot lead over Labajo, who turned in the best score for the second straight day—a three-under 69—and finished all alone in second spot at 288.

Omar Dungca placed third at 290 after a 71 while Rufino Bayron (73) stood another two shots back at 292 as visiting players dominated action in the first of five elimination legs.

Kim Chang Hoi, the Korean teener who denied Saragosa by one for the national grand finals plum only last February at Mt. Malarayat, never figured in the title race after tying for the lead in the first round.

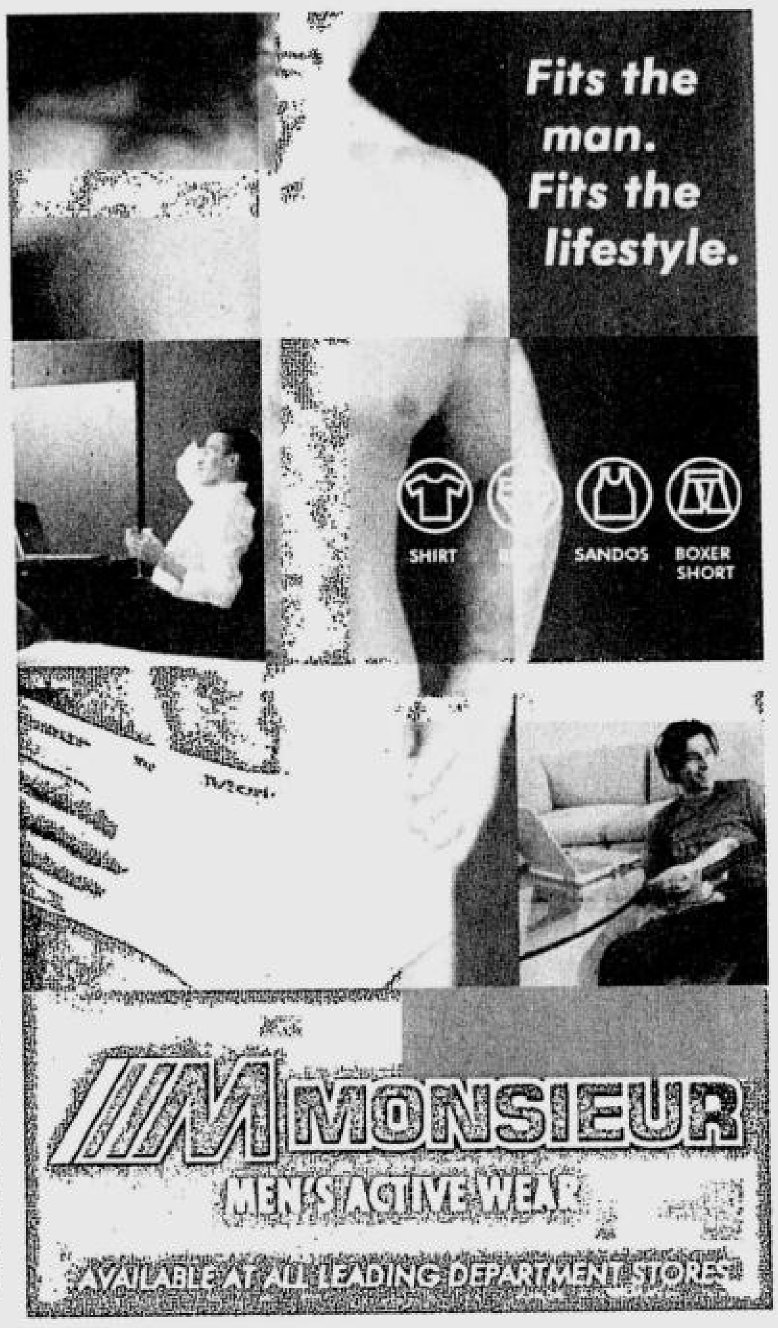
Kim closed out with a 74 and shared fifth place with Labajo (74) in the event also sponsored by Tokyo Tokyo, KZG, Microtel, Coppertone Sport, Srixon, Philippine Airlines, Sunbolt, Rudy Project, C-Lium Fiber and Sports Plus. Media partners are Wave 89.1, Jam 88.3, 89.9, 99.5 RT. 103.5 K-Lite and Killer Bee.

In men's Class A, club champion Rodel Mangulabnan scored 73 for a 143 total to win by 10 strokes over Korean Kim Beom Keom (74).

Joey Huerva, two off the lead in the first round, soared to an 81 and lost in the countback to Kim.

Song Moi Young topped Class B with a sudden-death victory over Chan Woo Park. Both had finished with similar 155s.

Ladies division winners were Sam Cebrero in Class A, Lin Mangulabnan in Class B and Jocelyn Catan in Class C. Sam beat Min Ji Kang by two, Mangulabnan prevailed by two over Park Ha Ye Jin and Catan nipped Ana Castro by three.



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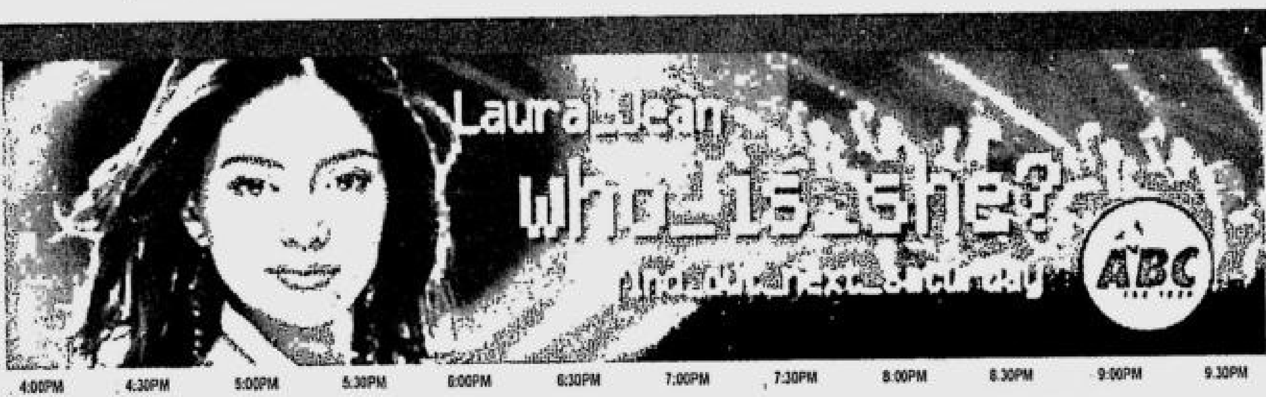

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| ABS-CBN 2 | Entertainment Konek | | | | Kaya Mo Ba 'To | | Nginiig The Hidden Files | | My Juan En Only | | Quizon Avenue | | TV Patrol World | Magandang Gabi Bayan | | Kapamilya Movie Sabado | | | Kontrobersyal (11:45PM) |
| ABC 5 | Trip Ko 'To | The Basketball Show | | Soccer Showdown | | Loren | | Dwetsahan | | Viva Box Office | | | | Sing Galing | | Maverick & Ariel | Onstage | | |
| GMA 7 | Startalk | | | Wish Ko Lang | | Wag Kukurap | Pinoy Pop Superstar | | Bitoy's Funniest Videos | | Extra Challenge | | Imbestigador | | Idol Ko Si Kap | | | Showbiz Stripped | |
| RPN 9 | | Global Window | | Byahang Langit | Kids TV | Hanapbuhay Overseas | | Isumbong mo kay Tulfo | | Medical Investigation | | CSI: Miami | | Saturday Night Playhouse | | | | Money Talk | |
| IBC 13 | | Home Shopping Network | | | Good Take | Home Shopping Network | | Lifestyle | | Tiger Sins | | | | Bitag | | In This Corner | | Alamin Ang Diabetes | |
| JackTV | | Worst Case Scenario | | Chasi | Filter | Samurai Jack | X-Men | Justice League Unlimited | The Batman | WWE Bottomline | | Wwe Raw | | | | Drawn Together | The Man Show | Primetime Glick | Beat The Geeks |
| Nickelodeon | Girls In Love | Naturally Sadie | As Told By Ginger | Snick Unfabulous (New) All Grown Up/ My Dad The Rock Star Drake & Josh | | | | Danny Phantom | My Life As A Teenage Robot | SpongeBob SquarePants | The Fairly Odd Parents | Sabrina, The Teenage Witch | Romeo | Girls In Love | Naturally Sadie | As Told By Ginger | Rocket Power | Hey Arnold! | The Wild Thornberrys |
| MYX | | Urban MYX | MYX Backtrax | Pop MYX | OPM MYX | Take 5 | My MYX | MYX Presents | | Top Of The Pops | MYX Remakes | Pop MYX | Urban MYX | Club MYX | Take 5 | OPM MYX | | MYX Live! | |
| ETC | | Saturday Night Live | | Who Wants To Marry My Dad 2 | | Joan Of Arcadia | | The O.C. | | Queer eye For The Straight Guy | | Last Comic Standing | | Saturday Night Live | | Entertainment Tonight | The Insider | The Tonight Show With Jay Leno | |
| Studio 23 | | | | PBL Game 2 | | | | Sports TV | Mr. Bean | 7th Heaven | Gilmore Girls (7:45 PM) | | The Bachelor (8:40PM) | | Studio 23 Present | | | | Reel Deal |
| AXN | | | | | | | | | E Buzz | 30 Seconds To Fame | | | | CSI: NY (Season I) | | | | | |
| Star World | | Totally Outrageous Behavior Caught On Tape | Weird TV | Miami Vice | | Monk | | Roswell | | Enterprise | | TNA Xplosion | | Wow! The Most Awesome Acts On Earth I/Saturday Shockumentaries | | Dog The Bounty Hunter | Cops | The Kumars At No. 42 | Arrested Development |
| CNN | Diplomatic License | World News | World Business This Week | World News | People In The News | Larry King Live | | World News | World Sport | World News | CNN Business Traveller | World News | Design 360 | World News | Talk Asia | World News | The Daily Show With John Stewart: Global Edition | CNN Presents: A Rising Tide: The Threat Of Global Warming | |
| National Geographic | | Big Bite Nite | | | | Big Cat Challenge | | Creature Feature | | | | Be The Creature | | The Snake Wranglers | Wildlife Diary | Big Bite Nite | | | |
| Lifestyle Network | Carol Duvall | HGTV Special | | Radical Sabbatical | Road & Track | Genuine Article | Food Fight | Date Plate | Emeril Live | | Nigella Bites | How Do I Look | | NY Fashion Week | Modern Girl's Guide | E! True Hollywood Story | | Look For Less | Behind The Velvet Ropes |
| HBO | | | | City Slickers: The Legend Of Curly's Gold (3:50 PM) | | | Dragonstorm (5:45 PM) | | | | Jumanji (7:20 PM) | | | Eternal Sunshine Of The Spotless Mind | | | Six Feet Under 50 Bomb Shelter (10:45PM) | | Tears Of The Sun |
| Star Movies | All The Pretty Horses (2:40 PM) | | | | Con Air (4:40 PM) | | | | Apollo 13 (6:35 PM) | | | | | Out For A Kill | | | Swimfan | | |
| Cartoon Network | | The Detective Squad | Tom & Jerry Show | Swat Kats | Duck Dodgers | Xiaolin Showdown | Winx Club | Atomic Betty | Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles | Teen Titans | | | | Cartoon Cartoon Show | Power Rangers Ninja Storm | Duck Dodgers | Codename: Kids Next Door | Samurai Jack | Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles |
| ESPN | | | | | | Table Tennis '05 Killerspin | 2005 State Farm U S Figure Skating | | | | Thailand X Games Cup | | Classic Boxing: O. Bonavena vs K. Mildenberger | | Boxing Series Friday Night Fights | | World Pool Masters '04 Ann Zee, Holland | | |
| Disney Channel | Potatoes And Dragons | Sabrina, The Animated Series | The Legend Of Tarzan | Wicked Science | Kim Possible | Totally Spies | That's So Raven | American Dragon | Phil Of The Future | America's Funniest Home Video | Wonderful World Of Disney | | | Dave The Barbarian | Mr Bean | America's Funniest Home Video | That's So Raven | Wonderful World Of Disney | |
| Cinemax | Saving Emily | | | True Colors | | | Lost Treasure (5:45 PM) | | | Dead Again (7:15 PM) | | | | The Core | | | | When Trumpets Fade (11:15PM) | |
| Hallmark Channel | Mad About You | Torso | | | | Mary & Tim | | | | Back When We Were Grown Ups | | | | I Do But I Don't | | | Mercy Mission: The Rescue Of Flight 771 (10:35PM) | | |
| Discovery Channel | | Human Discovery | | Science Frontiers | | Unsolved History | | | | Wild Discovery | | | | Rides | | Mummy Autopsy | | Extreme Discovery | |

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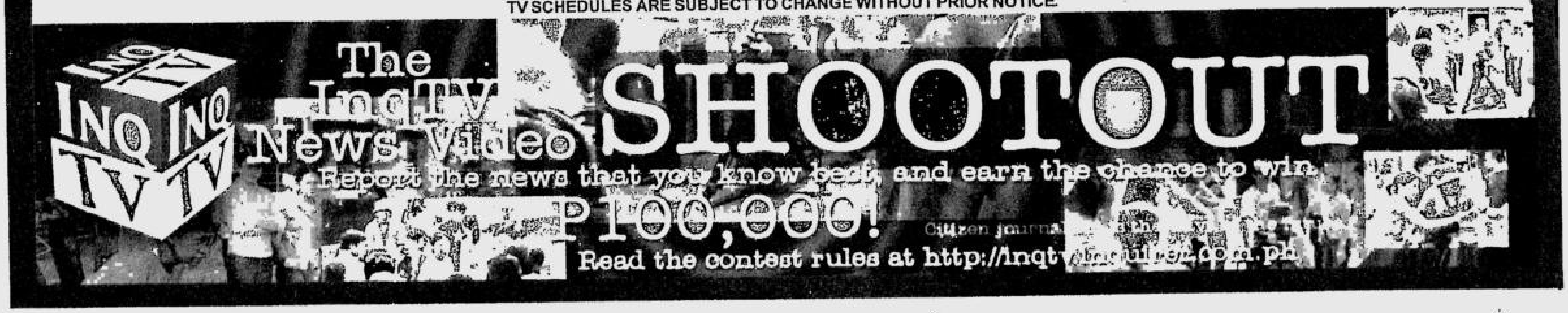
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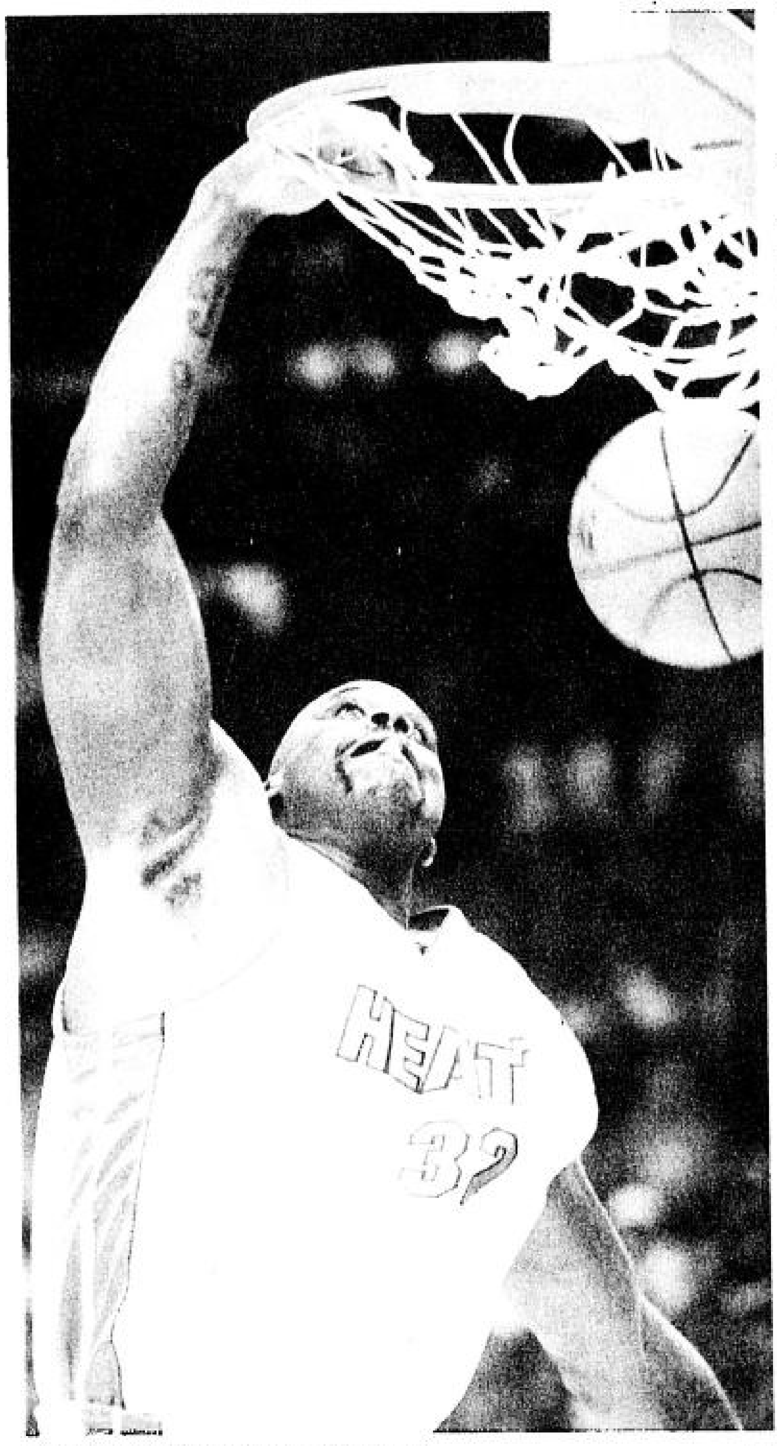
# Miami nears NBA finals



SHAQUILLE O'Neal scores on a dunk. AFP

## *Victory comes with a price: All-Star guard Wade hurt*

**MIAMI—The Miami Heat moved within one game of reaching the National Basketball Association finals on Thursday, but they may have to go the rest of the way without Dwyane Wade.**

The Heat played nearly the entire fourth quarter without the injured Wade, but still cruised to an 88-76 victory over defending NBA champions Detroit to take a three games to two lead in the Eastern Conference finals.

A rising star who has carried the Heat in the playoffs in just his second season, Wade suffered what was called a strained rib muscle with 5:08 left in the third quarter.

The injury was obvious after he took a charge from Detroit's Rasheed Wallace, but Wade said he actually hurt himself on a different, offensive move.

"I just made a quick move on the crossover, and I guess I pulled a muscle," Wade said.

"I took the charge because I couldn't move," he added. "I wanted to stop play anyway."

Wade returned for the start of the fourth quarter wearing a protective jacket. Clearly in pain, he left for good with 9:42 remaining. The All-Star guard scored 15 points on 4-of-9 shooting before leaving.

"He ran up and down the court three times and said he couldn't go," Heat coach Stan Van Gundy said. "We'll have to wait and see. I don't have any more information right now."

Van Gundy said he didn't have time to worry about the future ramifications when he saw Wade was hurt.

"Obviously, you don't want to have him out ... (but) at that time you don't have time to think about it other than is he there or not there, until the game is over."

Losing Wade would be a devastating blow for the Heat, who already are playing with star center Shaquille O'Neal at less than full strength due to a lingering thigh injury.

When Wade left the game for the first time, the Heat already had built a commanding 67-47 lead. The Pistons took advantage of Wade's absence, using a 13-6 run to pull within striking distance entering the fourth.

However, the Heat led by double digits the entire fourth quarter and moved within one win of reaching the NBA Finals for the first time in their 17-year history.

"Their (Heat) effort was phenomenal," said Pistons coach Larry Brown. "I thought right from the get go. Their energy was a lot greater than ours.

"We didn't maybe match their energy. Our guys tried. A few of them got a little frustrated."

O'Neal scored 20 points, Damon Jones 14 and Udonis Haslem added 14 and 13 rebounds for the Heat, who closed the first half with an 11-0 run for a 53-39 lead.

"I just wanted to come out and play aggressive," O'Neal said. "Tonight I played real aggressive. Dwyane went down today, but we've got a lot of guys on our team that want to play. We don't know what his (Wade's) injury is, but we know he's a tough kid so he must have been hurting.,"

"We did what we were supposed to do," O'Neal added of the home win. "Now we've got to go down there and get another one."

Richard Hamilton scored 21 points and Chauncey Billups added 19 for Detroit, who will try to keep their season alive at home in game six on Saturday.

The Pistons overcame a 3-2 series deficit in the conference semifinals against New Jersey last season.

The winner of the series will face Western Conference champions San Antonio in the NBA finals beginning on June 9.

In NBA history, the winner of Game 5 in a series tied 2-2 has gone on to win it 106 of 126 times. *AFP*

MIAMI'S Dwyane Wade (right) blocks a shot at the

# Jordan, Bird, Magic to pick US squad

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colorado—Michael Jordan, Magic Johnson, Larry Bird and Larry Brown are among the who's-who list of stars who agreed on Thursday to help choose the US Olympic men's basketball team.

USA Basketball, the sport's national governing body, wants to avoid the trouble that came in selecting the 2004 Olympic team, which finished third at the Athens Games, the only time so far an all-NBA squad failed to win the gold medal in the quadrennial meet.

Last week, USA Basketball announced Jerry West, Ernie Grunfeld and a handful of NBA team presidents and general managers would be part of the advisory group.

Other former players on the list this week included David Robinson, Charles Barkley, Bill Russell and Oscar Robertson. Other coaches included Dean Smith, Bob Knight, John Thompson and Chuck Daly.

"I'm so grateful that these Olympians, both players and coaches, have chosen to assist, serve and engage in this process," said Phoenix Suns chair Jerry Colangelo, who last month was appointed managing director of USA Basketball's senior men's program.

Members of the advisory panel are expected to meet on June 6-7 in Chicago.

Jordan, Bird, Johnson, Barkley and Robinson were part of the original Dream Team, the first squad the NBA sent to an international meet when basketball was made an open sport. *AP*

# *Popovich's secret: When the need arises, leave Duncan alone*

SAN ANTONIO—San Antonio Spurs coach Gregg Popovich knows Tim Duncan as well as anyone. So when the perennial All-Star sulked after a poor performance in a NBA playoff game, Popovich knew exactly how to pull him out of it.

He left him alone.

Working out the kinks by himself, Duncan went back to being the fundamentally sound force who has led the Spurs to two of the last six NBA titles—and ensured they'll be playing for another starting next week.

Duncan had 31 points, 15 rebounds and three blocks in a 101-95 victory over Phoenix on Wednesday, helping San Antonio wrap up the Western Conference finals in five games. His performance left the Spurs smiling, the Suns shaking their heads, and everyone in both locker rooms saying, "That's Tim."

"Tim Duncan was a possessed individual," Popovich said. "You would never know it by looking at his face or talking to him. I haven't talked to him for two days. I just leave him alone in these situations. He doesn't need anybody to talk to him, especially a coach. He's a very mature individual who understands what needs to be done."

The Spurs returned to San Antonio on Thursday for a weeklong siesta before the Finals. It'll be days before they know whether they'll be playing Ben Wallace and the defending champion Detroit Pistons or their former Western Conference foe Shaquille O'Neal and his new club, the Miami Heat.

Either way, the final round will begin in San Antonio next Thursday.

"I'd love a little shorter time," Duncan said, "but you can't beat that."

With two creaky ankles, Duncan tops the list of players who need the time to recuperate. Manu Ginobili has all kinds of sore spots and Tony Parker added to his collection of bruises with several hard falls in Game 5.

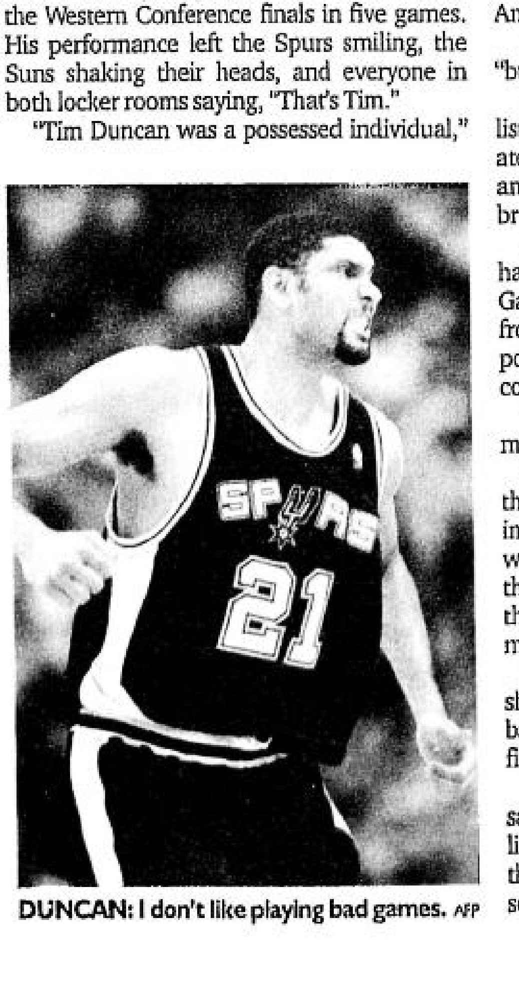
Duncan blamed himself for the Spurs even having to play five games. He considered the Game 4 loss his fault because he missed nine free throws and made just six baskets in a five-point loss. He scored 15 points that game compared to 30.5 in the four wins.

"Whenever Tim has a bad game, he puts so much pressure on himself," Ginobili said.

Rather than chalking it up to one of those things that happens in the playoffs, or blaming his dual ankle injuries, Duncan went to work. He practiced his jump shots and free throws alone on the day off between games, then arrived at the arena early Wednesday to make sure he had his touch back.

The result: He made six of his first seven shots, rebounding the lone miss and putting it back in. That gave him 12 of San Antonio's first 16 points and he had 18 by halftime.

"I just don't like playing bad games," he said. "I don't like going out there and feeling like I left something on the floor that night that I shouldn't have, that I could have done something different." *AP*



**DUNCAN:** I don't like playing bad games. AFP

# Mikan, basketball's first star and dominant big man, dies

PHOENIX—George Mikan, US professional basketball's first superstar and who led the former Minneapolis Lakers to five championships, died at a Scottsdale rehabilitation center, family members said on Thursday. He was 80.

Mikan had suffered from diabetes and kidney failure. One leg was amputated in 2000, and he recently was hospitalized for six weeks for treatment of a diabetes wound in the other leg. For the past five years, he had undergone kidney dialysis three times a week, 4 1/2 hours per session.

Last Saturday, he was moved from the hospital to the rehabilitation center, his son, Terry, said. He died on Wednesday.

"He had a fierce determination to excel, which he exhibited in his athletic career and business career," Terry Mikan told The Associated Press on Thursday, "and that probably extended his life five years."

At 6-foot-10 (2.09 meters), nearsighted with thick glasses, Mikan dominated the US pro game from the moment he arrived.

"George Mikan truly revolutionized the game and was the NBA's first true superstar," NBA commissioner David Stern said. "He had the ability to be a fierce competitor on the court and a gentle giant off the court. We may never see one man impact the game of basketball as he did, and represent it with such warmth and grace."

Mikan's Lakers won five NBA titles in the first six years of the franchise's history. A rough player, Mikan led the league in personal fouls three times and had 10 broken bones during his playing career. He averaged 23.1 points per game in seven seasons with Minneapolis before retiring because of injuries in 1956. Mikan was the league's MVP in the 1948-49 season, when he averaged 28.3 points—a phenomenal total in that era—in leading the Lakers to the NBA title.

Shaquille O'Neal, speaking after Miami's playoff victory over Detroit on Thursday night, said he wanted the Mikan family to contact the Heat so he could pay for the funeral.

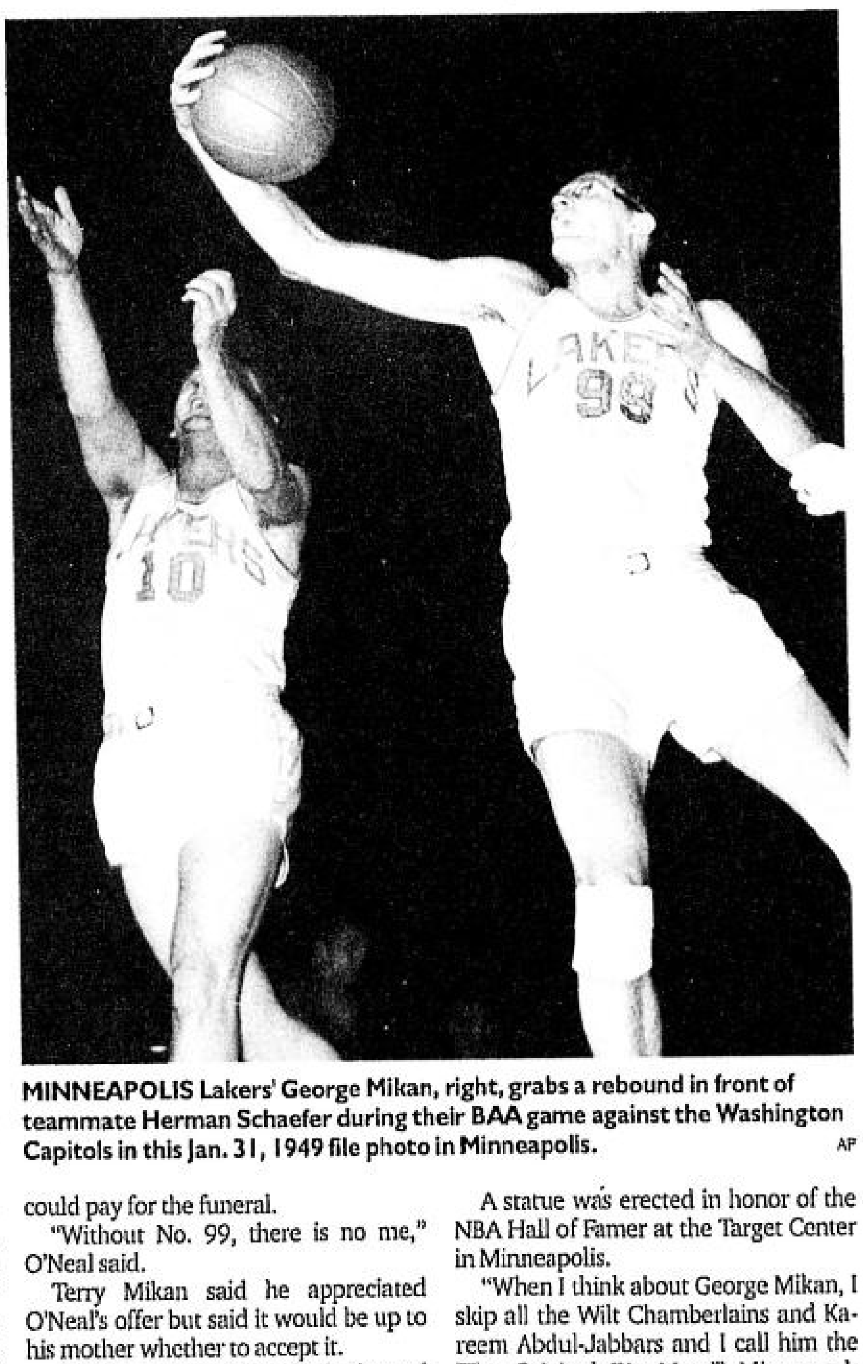
"Without No. 99, there is no me," O'Neal said.

Terry Mikan said he appreciated O'Neal's offer but said it would be up to his mother whether to accept it.

A private memorial service is planned in Scottsdale on Monday night. At some unspecified date, a public ceremony will be held in Minneapolis, where Mikan's ashes will be interred, Terry Mikan said.

A statue was erected in honor of the NBA Hall of Famer at the Target Center in Minneapolis.

"When I think about George Mikan, I skip all the Wilt Chamberlains and Kareem Abdul-Jabbars and I call him the 'The Original Big Man,'" Minnesota's Kevin Garnett once said. "Without George Mikan, there would be no up-and-unders, no jump hooks, and there would be no label of the big man." *AP*



**MINNEAPOLIS Lakers' George Mikan, right, grabs a rebound in front of teammate Herman Schaefer during their BAA game against the Washington Capitols in this Jan. 31, 1949 file photo in Minneapolis.** AP

asket by Detroit's Ben Wallace. AP

### FRENCH OPEN FINAL

# Henin-Hardenne, Pierce square off

PARIS—Medical charts and ages, rankings and records won't mean much when Mary Pierce and Justine Henin-Hardenne clash in the French Open final Saturday.

They are players who defy logic and obvious number crunching, reminding fans that champions are more than the sum of their wins and losses, or backhands and forehands. Their low seedings never mattered on their marches through the draw to semifinal victories Thursday, nor did the formidable health problems they each overcame to get this far.

Frenchwoman Pierce and Belgium's Henin-Hardenne all but danced on center court in their latest triumphs over outclassed Russians—Pierce breezing past Elena Likhovtseva, 6-1, 6-1, after Henin-Hardenne ousted Nadia Petrova, 6-2, 6-3.

Pierce's flat, deep groundstrokes kept Likhovtseva pinned behind the baseline, or left her frustrated when she made ventures to the net and got passed. Henin-Hardenne played with greater artistry and touch, wearing down Petrova and making her look silly on some points.

On paper, it would be easy to discount Pierce's chances to reclaim the French title she won in 2000, and came close to winning when she reached her only other final at Roland Garros 11 years ago. The years between have seen Pierce rise and fall—and rise again—as she's dealt with family dramas, coaching changes and injuries. None more serious than the back problems that led her to miss most of 2001—and consider retiring.

She's won only one tour event, a minor one on grass in the Netherlands, since capturing the French, and came into this Grand Slam event seeded No. 21. At 30, she is the oldest French women's finalist since Martina Navratilova in 1987, and is bidding to become the oldest champion since Chris Evert, at 31, the year before that.

Throw in the fact that Pierce has lost all three of her matches against Henin-Hardenne in straight sets—on clay in Charleston, on grass at Wimbledon two years ago and on a hardcourt at the Olympics last summer—and it wouldn't seem she has much chance.

The 10th-seeded Henin-Hardenne, the 2003 champion, has a Jordan-esque number going for her—she turned 23 on Wednesday, she's won 23 straight matches, all on clay, and she's trying to win her 23rd title.

"It's my lucky number," she said. "I hope it will keep going."

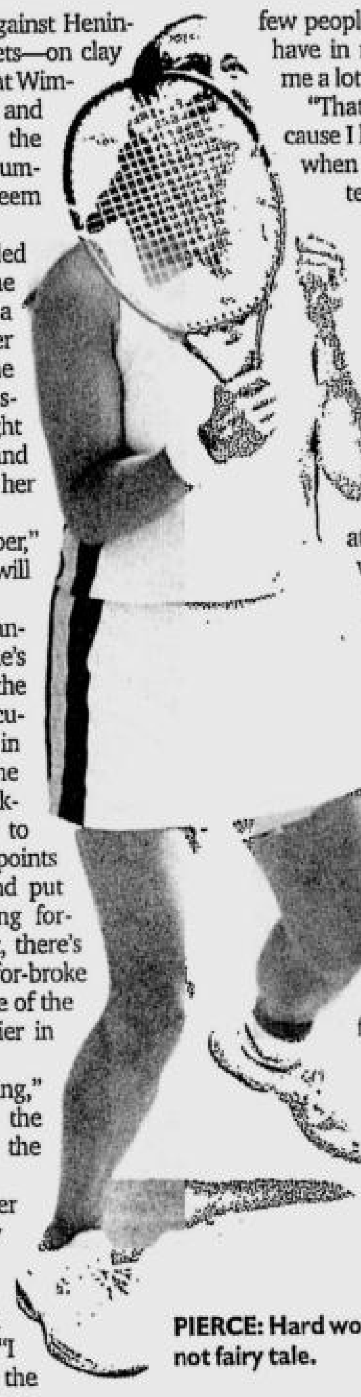
Yet consider the intangibles: Pierce, when she's on, still has some of the hardest and most accurate groundstrokes in the game. Though she lacks finesse and quickness in moving side to side, she can dictate points from the baseline, and put them away by moving forward. More than that, there's her attitude—a go-for-broke feeling and an absence of the pressure she felt earlier in her career.

"It's a fantastic feeling," Pierce said, of the prospect of winning the trophy again.

Someone asked her if it all feels like a fairy tale.

"No, not at all, because I've worked very hard," she said. "I believe in myself, and the few people that believe in me that I have in my life have really helped me a lot to get where I am.

"That's why I'm here today, because I had something inside of me when I had my injuries that was telling me, 'You're not done. There's still something for you to do in tennis, still some things for you to accomplish.' ... I just listened to that. That just proves (you should) never really doubt yourself and that voice inside."



PIERCE: Hard work, not fairy tale. AP

Five years ago when she won, she said she was at the top of her game. She was 25, old enough to have the experience to win, young enough to recover from match to match. Eleven years ago, at her first final here, she was simply overcome by nerves when she lost to Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario in two close sets. Pierce said she couldn't sleep the night before and she worried about what she would say in French if she won.

She took a lot of kidding for her imperfect, American-Canadian accented French in those days. She was born in Montreal and grew up in Florida but claimed French citizenship because her mother was born in France. Her French is fluent now, less accented after living and training the past year in Paris under the coaching of brother David, and she's become more of a favorite of fans here.

HENIN-HARDENNE: Lucky 23. AFP

"I just keep on persevering and believing in myself and keep working hard," she said. "There are no secrets. Hard work always pays off, sooner or later."

That has also been Henin-Hardenne's formula.

"It's a beautiful story," Pierce said of Henin-Hardenne's journey through illness and injury. "Look at what Justine has been through. She's awesome. I really appreciate her and admire her as a person, and also as a player.

"Once you get to the top of the game, there are tons of girls now that can play really great tennis. We've got at least 10 that can win a tournament any week. So when you come down to it, it's more the mental part of the game and being able to deal with the little things that make the big difference."

Henin-Hardenne has mastered the little things and coped with the big ones. A blood virus and knee injury kept her off the tour for seven months, and she's been troubled by a back injury throughout this tournament. AP

# Special Olympians' take-off set

PHILIPPINE Airlines is the official carrier of the Philippine contingent to the 6th Special Olympics Singapore Invitational Games opening today.

The flag carrier will fly 13 special Filipino athletes and their coaches to the six-day competition.

The Filipinos are entered in only two events, tenpin bowling and lawn bowling.

The tenpin team is made up of Roxanne Ng, Anton Silos, Stephanie Babst, Mark Inductivo, Jonathan Zulueta, Alfred Abueg, Larry Cruz, Robin Clarino and Paul Vincent Viado from Cebu.

The team is coached by Cristy Gacuma and Isagani Zulueta.

The lawn bowling squad, which is competing for the first time, is composed of Margaret Babst, Ken Lawrence Yu, Ana luisa Se and Neil Sebastian.

The team is mentored by Suzette Babst.

The Philippine delegation, whose deputy head is Manny Inductivo, is outfitted by Reebok.

Other sponsors are Globe Telecom, Rockwell's Powerball, Red Corner Fitness and Boxing Club at Hotel Intercontinental Manila, Burlington socks, Penshoppe, Ms Bong Coo's The Bowler and Creative Response.

# FVR Cup slated at Caliraya Springs

CALIRAYA Springs Golf and Country Club, the new Arnold Palmer designed course on the beautiful Lake Caliraya, just 2 1/2 hours from Manila, will be the venue on Saturday, June 4, of the 2nd Annual Invitational FVR Cup, a tournament in honor of former President Ramos.

Up to 50 participants are expected, although it won't be the big names of golf, it'll be the movers and shakers in business and the community. It's a fun day in Caliraya where double digit handicaps won't be an embarrassment and minus numbers will also exist.

The tournament is being hosted by Camp Cali (the new team-building resort of Peter and Estee Wallace) and Caliraya Springs Golf and Country Club. Major sponsors include Smart Communications, Bristol-Myers Squibb Mead Johnson, Nestle, Teletech and JWT. The game will be followed by lunch and awarding of winners at the Wallaces Sanctuary on the lake.

Proceeds of the tournament will go to the building and equipping of a school in Lunao, Magalolong, Kalayaan Laguna, in cooperation with the Caliraya Lake Conservation Society.

# SBP holds organizational meeting

THE SMALL Basketeers Philippines (SBP) League will hold an organizational meeting on Thursday, June 9, at the Quezon City Sports Club along E. Rodriguez Avenue, QC.

Tournament Commissioner Rolando Omampo requests coaches and/or administrators of different schools to attend the meeting set at 3:30 p.m.

Tournament rules and format will be discussed, according to Omampo.

The SBP/Passerelle tournament is scheduled to open on July 10 at San Beda College-Alabang.

Among the prominent players who saw action in the SBP/Passerelle tourney during their elementary and high school days are Paolo Mendoza, Enrico Villaneuva and LA Tenorio.

For details, call The BEST Center at 4116260 and 372-3065.

# Adidas Tennis Challenge '05

ADIDAS Philippines presents a series of tennis events which will benefit collegiate netters, age groupers, junior men's and women's 21-under players, fans and spectators alike, and introduce its school team tennis format—all under the exciting program of the Adidas Tennis Challenge 2005.

The Adidas Tennis Challenge 2005 kicks off its nationwide calendar of activities with the Nazareth Tennis Club hosting the first leg over the weekend in Cagayan de Oro City.

The event has been organized by the Children's Tennis Workshop since 1999 with support from Milo and sanctioned by Philippine Lawn Tennis Association.

# Tszyu, Hatton chummy before big fight night

MANCHESTER, England—Let's hope the fight isn't so friendly.

Kostya Tszyu and Ricky Hatton turned their head-to-head news conference into a mutual admiration session on Thursday.

The two big-hitting light-welterweights are set to pound each other round by round Saturday when IBF champion Tszyu takes on the unbeaten Hatton, but there were no snarls or below-the-belt remarks at the pre-fight conference.

"Trash talking? Look, it happens for some reason with some people are not confident in themselves and try to promote themselves," said Tszyu Thursday. "We have enough violence in life. I have kids and Ricky's got one boy. We have to be an example to them. How can you be an example by doing the wrong things and saying the wrong things? How can you explain to them afterwards that you said something bad?

"You can't. I try to live as an example to my kids."

The Russian-born Australian, who has held various world titles for over a decade, is conscious of his esteemed standing in his adopted nation.

"I do my job in the ring. That's why Ricky is so popular here because he never did any bad things to his opponent but he's still popular," he said. "I'm still popular in my country, not because I have said any bad things because I carry myself properly.

"I respect my name and I love my name. That's why I can't rubbish myself."

Tszyu has fought just three times in 2 1/2 years—largely because of Achilles tendon and shoulder injuries—and puts his title on the line against a fighter who has won all 38 contests, albeit against low-grade opponents.

Hatton, a ferocious body puncher, owns the lightly regarded WBU title and has defended it 15 times.

Even knowing that the vast majority of a sellout 22,000 crowd will cheer him on at Manchester's MEN Arena, Hatton's hardly over confident against a champion whose only loss in 32 bouts was eight years ago.

"Kostya is the favorite and rightly so after everything he's done and his last performance, more so," Hatton said, referring to the Tszyu's third-round knockout of Sharmba Mitchell last November. "Tszyu is one of the best light-welterweights in history and probably only Julio Cesar Chavez has achieved more at this weight.

"It is fantastic that we have got someone of Kostya's standard coming over here. But a lot of British fighters in the past have been in the same position as me, not being given much of a chance."

Hatton referred to John H. Stracey's 1975 victory over Jose Napoles, Lloyd Honeyghan's upset of Donald Curry in 1986, Nigel Benn's dramatic win over Gerald McClellan 10 years ago and Barry McGuigan's 1985 decision over Eusebio Pedroza—all four Britons winning fights when they were underdogs. AP

# For Mary, stalling's part of the package

PARIS—When Mary Pierce prepares to serve, she cleans the baseline with her foot, then uses her racket to knock the clay from the soles of her shoes. She adjusts her pony tail, brushes the hair from her eyes, blows on her fingers and fixes a Zen-like stare at her opponent, who by this point has dozed off.

No, not really. Pierce's once-stupefying series of tics has become part of her charm, now that she's back in the French Open final.

But those planning to watch the Frenchwoman's match Saturday against Justine Henin-Hardenne might want to set aside at least a couple of hours, because Pierce plays slowly.

"That's kind of just Mary," said top-ranked Lindsay Davenport, who lost to Pierce in the quarterfinals.

"I like to be calm and not be in a hurry—be relaxed," Pierce said. "That's the way I am."

Hey, it works. The top half of the women's draw at Roland Garros included Davenport, Kim Clijsters, Venus Williams and Elena Dementieva, but Pierce outlasted them all to reach her first Grand Slam final since winning the French Open five years ago.

"It's a fantastic feeling," she said.

Pierce overcame health woes to stage the latest comeback in her roller-coaster career.

Troubled as a teen by a tumultuous relationship with her father, who was banned by the WTA Tour for four years, she rose to third in the rankings at age 20 when she won the Australian Open in 1995. The next breakthrough came in 2000, when the Roland Garros title helped her finally win over French fans who had jeered her in the past and mocked her American accent.

Pierce has rediscovered her peak at the age of 30. She's the oldest women's Grand Slam finalist since Martina Navratilova was the runner-up at Wimbledon in 1994 at age 37.

"Justine [Henin Hardenne] just has an incredible clay-court record," Davenport said. "I would think Mary would be a heavy underdog. Justine does an incredible job of getting balls back in and really mixing it up. The ball's not going to be right in Mary's strike zone, so she's going to have to play well."

Or she could try to stall. AP

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Provincial winners can text:
inquirer ad name/age/city/mailing address
to 2207 or 283 as their prizes will be mailed to them

# Fan gets to bid Nicklaus painful goodbye

**GOLF** legend Jack Nicklaus hits his third shot on the 1st hole. AFP

DUBLIN, Ohio—Jack Nicklaus' drive on the ninth hole was fading to the right toward the trees.

"Spit it out," Nicklaus said.

That's what happened, only it didn't ricochet off a tree.

The ball hit Joe Broecker of Indiana square in the jaw and split it open. It was Broecker's first trip to the Memorial, and it became memorable for all the wrong reasons.

"We were just waiting on Jack to come through," he said.

When Nicklaus arrived, he casually asked if everyone was OK when he saw Broecker, 39, holding a red-stained towel to his jaw with streaks of blood on his face and hands. Nicklaus visited with Broecker, and later sent US PGA Tour security to get his name and address "so I can check on him."

"I just don't like to hurt somebody," Nicklaus said. "[It was] a pretty nasty cut."

Broecker got medical help as he sat under a tree, then headed to a hospital for stitches. He was with his friend, Jim Rees, who invited him to the Memorial.

"He got to meet Jack Nicklaus," Rees said, "just not the way he wanted."

Nicklaus, who parred the hole on the way to a 75, said he was glad he got Broecker's address and not the other way around.

"He's not going to be real happy later," Nicklaus joked. "He was a big guy, too."

Meanwhile, Nicklaus received a thunderous ovation when he was introduced as he walked up the 18th fairway. Among those applauding him was playing partner David Toms.

"It's just respect," Toms said. "He paved the way for guys like me to do this."

## In-laws

Sean O'Hair shot a 69 in the opening round Thursday. He gave much of the credit to his father-in-law/caddie, Steve Lucas.

"The only problem is, if we have a problem I can't fire him," O'Hair said, joking. "But we have a good time out there."

The friendship is a welcome tonic for O'Hair, whose father, Marc, dominated his life before they parted ways two years ago. That was about the same time Sean married Jackie Lucas. They now have a 3 1/2-month-old daughter.

Before O'Hair went to qualifying school last year, he asked Jackie's father to caddie for him. Things worked out so well—he's won almost $1 million as a rookie—that Steve Lucas has stayed on the road with O'Hair and put his insurance business on hold back in Philadelphia.

"What's interesting about my relationship with him is, he can say things to me that nobody would say to their father-in-law and I can say things to him that would get every caddie fired," Lucas said. "So there's no egg shells. I don't watch what I say to him. I don't treat him like he's a baby but I don't want him acting like one. And he doesn't."

O'Hair said Lucas is more than a father-in-law, more than a caddie, and more than a friend.

"If I get a little too big for my britches, he'll definitely bring me back down to reality," he said. "He just tries to keep me calm no matter what the circumstance is."

## Out of synch

Vijay Singh shot a 77 that left him a dozen shots out of the lead after the opening round.

The wind picked up and was swirling by the time he finished his round. But he didn't use that as an excuse for two double-bogeys and a 41 on the back nine.

"It wasn't the wind," he said. "I just played bad."

## Till death

Some said Tiger Woods would lose his hunger to win when he married Elin Nordegren last October. That has not been the case, Woods said.

"People think it's going to totally change my life. It didn't really change anything," he said after shooting a 3-under 69. "Our relationship is exactly the same, and that's the beauty of it. I love her to death and I'm very excited about my life now and the prospects for the future." *AP*

MEMORIAL GOLF

# Jeff grabs lead but spotlight falls on Jack

**JEFF** Sluman plays a bunker shot on the 17th hole during the first round of The Memorial in Dublin, Ohio. AFP

**DUBLIN, Ohio—Even after Jeff Sluman polished off his best round of the year, a 7-under 65 that gave him a one-shot lead in the Memorial, he was quick to ask the question on just about every player's mind on Thursday.**

What did Jack shoot?

In what might be his final US PGA Tour event on American soil, Jack Nicklaus sent a fan to the hospital after hitting him with a tee shot, sent the gallery to its feet with back-to-back birdie putts inside 6 inches and spent most of the gray, cool day at Muirfield Village holding his own until three bogeys on the last four holes dropped him to a 75.

It was better than Vijay Singh (77), Davis Love III (78) and Mike Weir (76), but still 10 shots behind Sluman, and not nearly good enough to make him feel like celebrating.

"I had a chance to shoot a pretty darn good score," Nicklaus said. "I shot 75. That's about my game. I don't see anybody being scared by it. It didn't scare a soul except me."

That didn't stop the admiration and appreciation of the tournament founder and host, now on the last leg of an incomparable competitive career.

Joe Ogilvie, invited by Nicklaus to take part in a junior clinic on Wednesday, shot a 67 and between questions in his interview quietly asked what Nicklaus shot. So did 24-year-old Adam Scott after bogeying the last hole for a 67, and three-time Memorial champion Tiger Woods after his bogey-free 69.

Told that it was a 75 and that Nicklaus wasn't pleased, Woods smiled.

"Shocking, huh?" he said. "It's Jack, you know? If he shoots over par, he's going to be mad. I'm sure he's going to probably go out on the range and work a little bit so he's ready tomorrow. Hey, that's what made him the greatest player that's ever played the game. He's never satisfied."

No one is more appreciative than Sluman, and for good reason.

Nicklaus' assistant captain at the Presidents Cup two years ago, Sluman needed a sponsor's exemption to play in the Memorial. Equipped with a new putting grip he tried out of desperation, the 47-year-old Sluman took only 24 putts and had three birdies on the par 3s for a one-shot lead over Rory Sabbatini.

Held back by his putting the last several years, Sluman tried the belly putter at the Memorial last year. Three weeks ago, he went to a version of the "claw grip" that Skip Kendall first made famous, and now is used by players like Chris DiMarco, Mark O'Meara and Billy Andrade.

"It's been delightful to putt again, like you feel like you're a kid, getting all the balls to the hole," Sluman said.

Whether he stays in the lead is another matter. Muirfield Village can be punishing if a player doesn't pay attention—Singh shot a 41 on the back nine for a 77, his worst opening round since the 2000 US PGA Championship—but the greens were so pure and the conditions so good that plenty of good scores were available.

Twenty-eight players broke 70, and nine players were within two shots of the lead.

Woods, who can regain the No. 1 ranking this week, opened with 12 straight pars until he picked up two easy birdie putts on the par 5s—both were two-putts from about 20 feet—and opened with a 69. Aside from a 10-foot par save on the 17th, "I really wasn't in danger of making a bogey."

Singh had problems on the par 5s, and it caught up with him. An approach into the water on No. 5 led to a bogey, then he hit his tee shot and his approach into the water on the 11th for a double bogey. He made another double bogey on the 17th from a greenside bunker, and wound up with his worse score since a 78 in the final round of the US Open last year at Shinnecock Hills.

"I just played bad," he said.

Nicklaus showed some fight from the start, especially when he had to play three consecutive shots before either of his partners, defending champion Ernie Els and David Toms, played their next. But he saved par with a 15-foot putt, and overcame a sloppy double bogey with some good shots. *AP*

# Creamer leads ShopRite field

GALLOWAY TOWNSHIP, New Jersey—The last time Paula Creamer played at the Seaview Marriott Resort golf course, she nearly made LPGA Tour history.

**CREAMER**

Competing as a 17-year-old high school student, she came within a stroke of winning the ShopRite LPGA Classic, missing a birdie putt on the last hole that would have put her in position to be the first amateur to win a tour event in 35 years.

A year later, she returns having finished high school, with her LPGA Tour card in her pocket, and her first tour victory under her belt.

Beating the rest of the 144-player field may be even tougher this time around, though.

Top-ranked Annika Sorenstam, defending champion Cristie Kerr, and perennial Classic contender Juli Inkster also will be playing when the $1.4-million Classic gets underway on Friday.

"When the No. 1 player in the world is in the field, everything starts higher. It will be more known," Creamer said this week. "But a win is a win at the end of the day."

Her first came two weeks ago when she hit a 17-foot birdie putt on the final hole to win the Sybase Classic in New Rochelle, New York, becoming the second-youngest first-time winner in LPGA history.

The victory has helped turn her from curiosity to budding star.

"It's been hectic. It's different," Creamer said. "I used to kinda get looked at. Now, it's more of, like, a stare. It's nice. You work hard and you want to win. If this is what it's going to be like, fine with me. I'll take it."

In last year's Classic, Creamer turned in a stellar 10-under par performance but missed a 10-foot birdie putt on No. 18 to finish tied for second with Giulia Sergas behind Kerr.

Despite a victory last month at the Michelob Ultra Open and her spot at No. 2 on the LPGA money list, Kerr said her game's not in top form.

Still, she's hoping last year's success carries over; if not, at least the Classic serves as a tuneup for the two major tournaments still to come this month—the LPGA Championship and the US Women's Open.

Unlike last year, Kerr has to worry about beating Sorenstam, who skipped the 2004 Classic. There's an upside to that, though, she said.

"It makes it sweeter for whoever wins the tournament when she's in the field. But again, there are a lot of people starting to challenge her on a weekly basis now and I think that's very, very good for our tour," Kerr said.

Sorenstam, who tied for second in last week's Corning Classic, is still fighting a cold and taking antibiotics but said she feels pretty good physically.

A two-time Classic winner, she almost always plays well here—then again, she does that everywhere. She has won four of the six tournaments she has played in this year and eight of her last 12.

"Confidence is everything in golf, and I have that right now," she said.

Inkster has also won the tournament twice and posted top-10 finishes 12 times. She thinks this year's tournament could be decided on the final holes of the bayfront 6,071-yard, par-71 course, which has been windy and damp all week. *AP*

**GIACOMO:** Resting up

# Giacomo, Afleet Alex get ready for Belmont Stakes showdown

NEW YORK—Kentucky Derby champion Giacomo and Preakness Stakes winner Afleet Alex are gearing up for a showdown in the last leg of racing's Triple Crown, the June 11 Belmont Stakes, their trainers said on Thursday.

Trainer Tim Ritchey pronounced Afleet Alex fit and well-suited for the test over 1-1/2 miles at Belmont Park.

"I think it's going to be a very interesting race, my horse and Giacomo," Ritchey said in a teleconference call. "I think it'll be a great race."

Ritchey said his horse showed no effects from his clash with Scrappy T down the stretch in the Preakness on May 21 when the two horses clipped heels and nearly crashed to the ground.

Afleet Alex ran five furlongs at Pimlico on Wednesday in 1:01 3/5 and all systems are go for the Preakness winner.

"I think we're in good shape," said Ritchey.

Giacomo trainer John Shirreffs said his colt was resting up at his California stable to recoup for the long Belmont race, after confirming his class with a third-place finish at the Preakness following his 50-1 longshot win at Churchill Downs.

"We brought him home to relax, to be in his own stall, to get him away from the pressures of the press and to really get a good look at his condition," Shirreffs said.

He said he thinks Belmont should suit Giacomo's style.

"He has a long stride, he covers a lot of ground and he is always coming at the end," the trainer said. "I know that Giacomo has a big move in him."

With Afleet Alex also known to close fast, Belmont fans could be treated to an exciting finish.

Ritchey said he would leave the timing of his horse's move to jockey Jeremy Rose.

"It kind of depends on the pace," he said. "Jeremy will just have to decide. We'd like him to make one good three-eighths run.

"But he'll have run quite a distance before you ask him to make that last kick." *Reuters*

**AFLEET Alex:** In good shape

## DUMAGUETE CAGEFEST

# China, Korea join 4th AUBC tourney

**By Roy Luarca**

ASIA'S best varsity cagers are coming over to test the mettle of their local counterparts.

The towering Chinese, the sharpshooting Koreans and the fast-breaking Taiwanese have confirmed their participation in the 4th Asian University Basketball Championships slated in Dumaguete City from June 12-18.

Basketball Association of the Philippines secretary general Graham Lim said Xiamen University of China, Myong Ji University of South Korea and Chinese Taipei University will be tangling with the top three finishers of the National Inter-Collegiate Basketball Championships—Perpetual Help College of Manila, Philippine Maritime Institute and National University—also held in Negros Oriental last February.

The provincial government, through Gov. George Arnaiz, also the organizing committee chair, has agreed to play host to the collegiate tournament first held in the country in 1998 with University of Manila emerging as champion.

St. Francis of Assisi, then powered by the likes of the De Ocampo brothers (Yancy and Ranidel) and Irvin Sotto, topped the 2000 and 2001 edition also held in Manila.

The 2003 edition was supposed to be held in Fujian, China, but it was cancelled due to the SARS outbreak.

`This year's title chase is perceived to be wide open owing to the participation of stronger foreign teams.

The Xiamen, Myong Ji and Chinese Taipei contingents are scheduled to arrive on June 11.

Being held in honor of international basketball federation (Fiba) president Dr. Carl Men Ky Ching, the 4th AUBC is being supported by FedEx, Air 21, Healthy Options, Burlington Socks, Accel, Bestank, Baker's Fair and Molten as official ball.

Ching has been invited to grace the opening ceremony to be led by Governor Arnaiz and other provincial and city officials.

# Team Makati drubs Parañaque in 9-ball

GETTING all the best shots from leading male entry Jharome Pena, Team Makati routed Team Parañaque, 6-2, recently to pull away from the field in the Intra-League Phase of the TM Philippine 9-Ball Champions Cup at the SM Southmall in Las Piñas.

The Makati Boys of Councilor Rico J. Puno only need to win their next game to make it to the finals as National Capital Region representative.

Pena, whose star shone in the recent Hope All-Filipino 9-Ball Championship where five Bagong Sibol Boys made it to the "Sweet 16," also leads the Touch Mobile Taco Master Award, a side event featuring the best individual players.

Team Parañaque of Vice Mayor Anjo Yllana, despite the presence of new recruit Mark Pascual bowed to Crossover Conference champion Makati, which posted its second straight win in the event presented by Touch Mobile and supported by Brunswick, Accel, Aqua Ronz and SM Supermalls.

Team Pasig of Rep. Dodot Jaworski, meanwhile, upset Team Manila of Mayor Lito Atienza, 6-3, despite efforts by female division pacesetter Ruby Merces to save the match for the Manilenos. Team Manila was the favorite to win the Crossover Phase title but was also stunned by Team Makati in the semifinals.

Crossover Phase runner-up Team Pampanga, meanwhile, bested Team Batangas, 6-2, to stay on course in its bid to top the provincial competition and salvage some pride by clinching the Intra-League championship.

In the other provincial pairing, Team Pangasinan defeated Team Cavite, 6-4.

Highlights of the Champions League is shown every Thursday and Friday over IBC 13 starting at 9:30 p.m.

The TV show is dubbed "Ang Bagong Sibol" with former professional basketball player Peter Martin and race car driver Pia Boren hosting the highly rated show. Ang Bagong Sibol boasts its touted instructional and trick shot segment with top Filipino trick shot artist as host.

**THE HOUSTON** Rockets Power Dancers are ready to whoop it up at the **NBA Madness** at the **Araneta Coliseum** parking lot. The spectacular **NBA** dance group has daily performances until tomorrow.

# Dagpin, Carreron gain Asian lawn bowl finals

KUALA LUMPUR—Chris Dagpin and Leoncio Carreon save the day for the San Miguel Beer Super Dry-RP National Team as they routed Thailand, 21-11, yesterday to reach the finals of the men's pair event in the 4th Asian Lawn Bowls Championship at the Kuala Lumpur Lawn Bowls complex here.

Dagpin, 26, a veteran of the 2004 World Championship, scored three points in the 4th end while Carreon added two in the fifth to grab the lead for good, 6-2, to remain unbeaten in five matches.

Both Dagpin and the 24-year-old Carreon, the 2005 national champion, will shoot for the gold today against defending champion Malaysia.

"We are already very familiar with the Thais," said Dagpin. "We meet them several times before already. It was really our plan to give them long ends because that is where they have difficulty sustaining. Every time we played against Thailand, we always played that way."

The Malaysian pair of Fairul Izwan Muin and Safuan Zaid have an easy sailing over South Korea, 30-9, to clinch the first finals seat.

But it will be a tall order for the Filipino pair since Zaid is the singles bronze medalist in the 2004 World championship in Scotland, while Fairul is the reigning singles champion for the under-25 during the World Cup in Hong Kong last March.

"They (Filipinos) have to stay focus<" said RP coach and longtime Angeles City resident Peter O' Donnel. "They have a strong chance, they will not be in the finals if they are not good also."

The SMB Super Dry-Team Philippines, whose trip here was bankrolled by San Miguel Corporation, has already secured three bronzes, courtesy of Herminio Dagpin, Angelo Morales and Reynaldo Samia, who lost to Brunei, 20-21, in the semifinals of the men's triple even.

The women's pair of Rosita Bradbon and Ronalyn Greenlees earlier settled for the bronze after losing to host Malaysia, 8-22, while the women's trio of Milagros Whetheridge, Sonia Bruce and Elenita Apkins wound-up third after losing to China in the semifinals, 16-17.

# NBA Music and Madness tonight

"NBA MUSIC and Madness," the first ever NBA Madness concert, will feature the hottest bands and singers in the Philippines at the Araneta Coliseum tonight.

The concert will be spiced by the special appearances of NBA stars Dwight Howard of the Orlando Magic and Luke Walton of the LA Lakers, and the Houston Rockets Power Dancers, one of the most famous dance squads in the NBA.

One of the highlights of the NBA Madness 2005, "NBA Music and Madness" will give 8,000 fans a chance to hear music in an NBA-themed atmosphere. The venue will be decorated with NBA images, large screens showing NBA game footage and a basketball court on the stage.

Bands and groups performing at the concert include Bamboo, Barbie's Cradle, Dice, K-9, Mil 'N Money and 6 Cycle Mind, giving fans different musical genre such as rock and roll, hip-hop, rap and pop music. Famous DJ Kimosave and Sir Scratch will also spin some of the hottest dance music for the fans.

The concert will also include elements of NBA in-game entertainment such as NBA Kiss-Cam, NBA Dance-Cam, loudest cheer contests, trivia contests and slingshot prizes throwaway.

"NBA Music and Madness" is presented by Coca-Cola with MYX as the official media partner.

NBA Madness has been a fan extravaganza in the Philippines for the past four years, promoting basketball in a fun, carnival-like atmosphere. This year, the venue is composed of four main courts—the Center Court, the 3-on-3 Court, McDonald's 3-Point Court and the NBA Mad Skillz Court, NBA Theater presented by Solar Sports, catching the hottest NBA Playoff games live on the big screen.

Taking center stage is a full basketball court where fans can showcase their hoops skills through a series of activities including: Beyond the Arches 3-Point Shootout presented by McDonald's, NBA Mad Skillz presented by Coca-Cola, Shoot for a Million presented by Coca-Cola, NBA Slam Dunk Competition presented by Solar Sports, NBA Shooting Stars, NBA 3-On-3 and NBA Basketball Celebrity Challenge.

NBA Madness 2005 is co-presented by Coca-Cola, McDonald's and Solar Sports, with Spalding, the Araneta Center, and the Araneta Coliseum as supporting sponsors and Solar Interactive as media partner.

## SPORTSWATCH

### Ancheta shines in Chicago chessfest

OAK BROOK, Illinois—Filipino Rene Glenn Ancheta beat Mexico's Juan Luis Obregon in the seventh and final round to finished in a tie for fourth in the recent 2005 Chicago Open chess tournament at the Double Tree Hotel here. The Illinois-based Ancheta scored four wins, two draws and one loss to accumulate 5.0 points and receive $450. Tied with Ancheta in the under 2200 section are Rodelay Medina, Dmitriy Obukhov, Okechukwu Iwu, Christopher Nienart, Gan Sandagsuren, John Rinaldo, Bernard Parham, David Justice and Jusuf Pekovic. *Marlon Bernardino*

### NCA 7-Cock Derby set June 7 and 9

FIRST class cockfighting action returns at the air-conditioned Araneta Coliseum on Tuesday and Thursday, June 7 and 9, with the staging of the "National Cockers Association ( NCA) 7-Cock Derby." Hosts are Rene Medina and Ric de Guzman, who regularly field their top rated entry Lucky Rin Firefly Binangonan I and II at the Big Dome. Submission of weights ( 1.8 kg to 2.4 kg only ) will be on Monday, June 6 , from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Araneta green gate. For inquiries, contact 911 -3101 and 911 -2928. Up next is the the second leg of 2005 World Slasher Cup 8-Cock Invitational Derby on June 14, 16 and 18 with Big Dome owner Jorge "Nene" Araneta, Gov. Ito Ynares and Jun Santiago as hosts. The NCA will also stage the "Super Special 6-Cock Derby" on June 23. Hosts are *sabong* idol Patrick Antonio, Georgie Antonio, Gov. Ito Ynares and San Juan Coliseum group.

### Las Piñas 3-cocker slates 50 fights

A FOUR-CORNERED fight among cockers from Parañaque, Las Pinas, Cavite and Muntinlupa will be featured tonight in Las Pinas Coliseum's special 3-cock derby. The 50-fight program is sponsored by Sagupaan Complexor 3000. The event, with P300,000 at stake, is hosted by Albert Elorde and BTY Group. Entry fee is P5,500. Another 3-cocker sizzles on June 11. It will showcase the best gamebirds from Bulacan, Batangas and Pangasinan. The hosts are Allan, Joel and Raul Ramos. For inquiries, contact 8731040, 8743910 and 0926 -7450375 ( look for Gerry or Julius ). Meanwhile, LPC's "No Entry Fee Fastest Win" is slated every Thursday.

### Golden Warrior Sweater roosters win

ARTHUR Mendoza's Golden Warrior Sweater roosters posted a sterling 4 out of 4 performance in the Summer Heat Derby at Roligon Mega Cockpit. Mendoza's Lance 5 entry, combined with Danny Espinosa of Navotas, shared championship honors with five other entries that include King Joaquin - Atty. Rodriguez, JJN - Nelson & Jojo Pua, Three Kids - A. Garcia, James First - Raul Ebeo, E & J - Erwin Diamante. Breeding gamefowls for just three years in Agoncillo, Batangas, Mendoza's birds have been on a rampage since 2003 when he won a 57-entry stag derby in Quezon, followed by a string of victories in Mindoro, Pampanga and Bulacan.

**FOOTBALL CHAMPS:** The Makati Football Club topped the recent Nike Cup. Standing from left: Ignacio Vicente, Andres Olsen, Oskar Jamtander, Alejandro Rivera, Rodrigo Lacal, Hikaru Bolt, Rokard Dahle, Todd Hudson, Anton Amistoso, Michael Sharpe and MFC president Tomas Lozano. Down from left: Paolo Cases, Yu Ito, Koki Torada, Korin Nakita, Benjamin Hestevold, Kenshiro Kanejko, Paulous Reyes, Reo Ishiwatari.

# Capulan, Ubana rule duckpin tilt

RENE Capulan of NSBA and Cess Ubaña of Cadba scored contrasting victories to rule the men's and ladies' singles event in the recent 39th Grand and 11th Youth national duckpin bowling championships at the Marketplace Center in Mandaluyong City.

Capulan routed Rene Glema, 242-203, while Ubana struggled past Rose Layoc, 224-208, in the stepladder finals.

Glema and Layoc advanced by beating Boying Magday, 122-108, and Janet Ocampo, 116-97, respectively.

NSBA W Lily IV and Cadba EJ bagged the men's and women's team titles.

Composed of Tony Manghaya, Rollie Abundo and team captain/manager Ricky Santos, NSBA W Lily IV nipped SR Bacolod, 332-331, while Cadba EJ topped Cadba Slim, 308-280.

# Koreans, Viets foil RP sepak takraw bets

PUERTO PRINCESA CITY—Guest team South Korea, backed by a 150-strong crowd of cheering Korean students, frustrated the debut of Team Philippines in three regu matches Thursday in the International Invitational Sepak Takraw Championship 2nd Mayor Edward S. Hagedorn Cup at the Puerto Princesa Coliseum here.

The Philippine women's Team A, composed of Puerto Princesa City-based takrawers Gelyn Evora, Irene Apdon and Josefina Maat, bowed to the unrelenting Koreans, a guest team in the tournament, in three sets, 21-14, 16-21, 15-13.

"*Masyado silang marami, para din kaming naglaro sa* Korea (They came in full force, it's like we were playing in Korea)," said Puerto Princesa coach Camillo Apdon of their rivals, who were cheered on by their compatriots from the Korean Maritime Academy.

The Philippine women's Team B bowed to Vietnam in the other match, 15-21, 21-16, 15-9.

# Wushu athletes target 12 SEAG golds

USING the country's decent finishes in recent international competitions as bases, Wushu Federation of the Philippines secretary general Edwin Pimentel is optimistic that the national squad is capable of delivering 12 gold medals when the country hosts the Southeast Asian Games this Nov. 27-Dec. 5.

Pimentel said the good coaching and motivational skills of Chinese coaches Yu Zhi Bu (sanshou) Ding Baoyu (taolou) have done wonders for the national squad, specifically world titlists Arvin Ting and Rene Catalan.

"The Chinese coaches we hired are really good," said Pimented in Filipino during yesterday's Scoop sa Kamayan Forum in Padre Faura, Manila. "Our players are also disciplined."

Ting said they are ready to do battle with their Vietnamese counterparts, who are tipped to be the Filipinos' toughest rivals in the SEAG.

# Ateneo, Santo Tomas spikers collide today

**ATENEO and Santo Tomas clash today in what could be another tightly-contested five-setter showdown for a final four edge in the Shakey's V-League.**

Gametime is 5 p.m. at the Rizal Memorial Coliseum, with both teams looking to extend their winning runs in the second elimination round.

Ateneo, at 4-2, hopes to maintain a tight grip on the third spot, with the veteran trio of Michelle Laborte, Amelia Guanco, and Cecille Tabuena leading the pack.

Varsity standouts Rosario Soriano and Patricia Taganas are also contributing their share of points, mostly coming from the first set, when Ateneo coach Luis Gepuela fields an all-varsity lineup.

Meanwhile, Santo Tomas, fresh from a morale boosting 25-16, 25-17, 25-21 win over FEU, Thursday, looks to score payback from the Katipunan-based squad in their first round showdown and level at third, with a possible 4-3 slate.

Mary Jean Balse and Kate Co Yu Kang will again hold the fortress for Santo Tomas, with Skipper Roxanne Pimentel desperate to recover from a scoring slump in recent games.

Pimentel, last season's Best Attacker, scored a measly eight points in their recent win and only five kills in their clash with the defending champs earlier in the week.

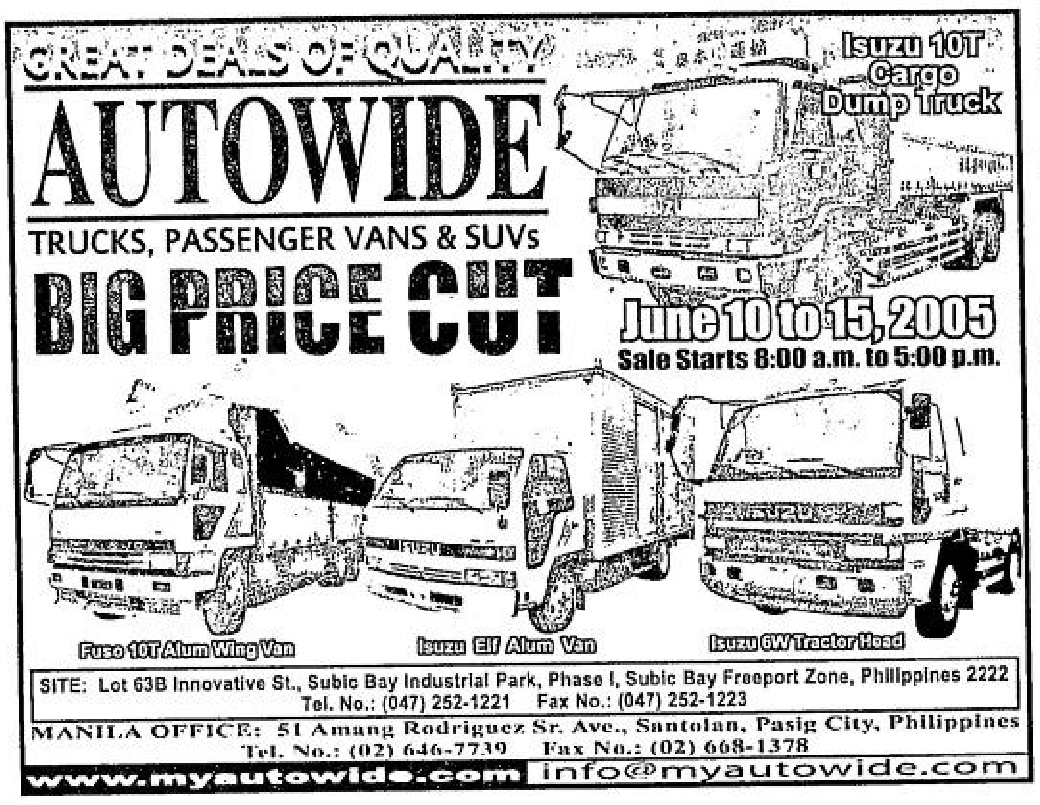
In the first game, surging San Sebastian takes on Far Eastern, also at the RMC.

Coming off a week-long break, San Sebastian will again be riding the offense of one-man army Cherry Rose Macatangay to open the second round of eliminations on a high note.

SSC posted an impressive 4-1 slate in the first round, succumbing only to league-leader La Salle in a surprising straight-set match last Saturday.

Lady Tamaraws Ruby May Rovira and Mary Ann Manalo will lead Far Eastern, at 1-6, but need steady contribution from their teammates to chalk up at least another victory in the event sponsored by Accel, Mikasa, IBC 13 and Jemah Television. Karla Tricia V. Magno

**UST's Lorraine Zapata blocks an FEU spiker in their Friday encounter won by the Tigresses.** RYAN LIM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# Tribu Sugbu trips CdO Stars

CAGAYAN de Oro City—Defending champion Tribu Sugbu repulsed host Cagayan de Oro Stars, 68-64, Friday to bounce back in the southern conference of the 2005 Panasonic-NBC national basketball championship at the Xavier University gym here.

Mark Magsumbol came off the bench to score 10 of the Cebuanos' last 12 points and help the Skygo/Sirlitz-backed team of businessmen Lito Gillamac and Mario King level its record after losing 79-85 to unbeaten Ozamiz Cotta in its recent debut.

With the Stars ahead, 62-59, in the fourth quarter, Magsumbol followed up Maui Huelar's basket with a reverse putback and then struck again with 1:55 left to push Tribu in front, 65-62.

The Stars of former Misamis Oriental Governor Antonio Calingin inched closer on Julius Navales' charities with 39 ticks left, but Magsumbol scored three free throws to seal the victory.

"We're lucky the breaks went our way in the homestretch," said Tribu coach Al Solis.

The loss was the second in three games for the Stars in the tourney supported by Panasonic, Sulpicio Lines, Cebu Pacific, Philtranco, Spring Cooking Oil, Accel, Molten, Sunbolt, Nature's Spring, Far Eastern Insurance, Skygo Motorcycles, Sirlitz Solutions Provider, Ping Ping Lechon, Rough Rider Jeans, Bayview Park Hotel and Holiday Plaza-Cebu.

Action resumes today at the Tagaytay Sports Complex with the Iligan Crusaders facing the Cavite Insurers at 3 p.m.

The scores:

Cebu (68)—Magsumbol 19, Binongo 16, Huelar 13, Pening 6, Caingiet 4, Paglinawan 3, Ursal 3, Briones 2, Luga 2, Bucao 0, Reyes 0, Almacin 0

CdO (64)—Navales 11, Jabagat 10, Agusan 10, Neri 9, Ortiguesa 9, Ramos 6, Dela Victoria 4, Alfante 3, Torres 2, Polistico 0, Rivera 0

Quarterscores: 22-19, 33-33, 52-50, 68-64

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Editor Nestor U. Torre
Assistant Editor Rito P. Asilo

LEDESMA (CENTER) WITH VALDERAMA (LEFT) AND JALOSJOS. A standout treat.

# Class act at Captain's Bar

By Nestor U. Torre

WHEN we hear that Leo Rialp is directing a new production, we make a mental note to see it. The reason is simple: We've liked Rialp's past shows for their freshness, creativity and vitality, and we want more of that!

That's why, when we got wind of his new show for Kuh Ledesma at the Captain's Bar at the Mandarin, we hastened to catch it. As expected, it was a standout treat.

The show pays tribute to a wide range of songs featured through the years in the movies, with Kuh acting as the lively production's singing host and muse.

## Easy on the eye

Aside from Kuh, who's reliably easy on the eye and ear, the show boasts of four promising young performers—Jake Macapagal, Lana Jalosjos, Shiela Valderama and Topper Fabregas. All praise to Leo and Kuh for giving these talents a chance to show what they can do. Topper, however, needs to work a bit harder to keep up with the others.

As for Kuh, she scintillates in this production's musical numbers, but doesn't have as felicitous a time with her spiels. Also, she seems to set a limit for herself in terms of performing brio and emotional involvement, so her performance is solid and pleasing, but not especially exciting.

## Extra mile

We hope that, in a future production, Kuh will go the extra mile in terms of musical daring and involvement. With the right self-motivation, we believe

CLASS/ A2-5

NOW SHOWING

# Two new films bank on leads' screen chemistry

By Rito P. Asilo

### "A Lot Like Love"

D: Nigel Cole
S: Ashton Kutcher, Amanda Peet

AFTER an unusual encounter—a casual fling, that is—in an airplane lavatory, Oliver (Ashton Kutcher) and Emily (Amanda Peet) discover that they share more than just their unwieldy predilection for the single life. He's intrigued by her troubled look and feisty aggressiveness, but she doesn't share his enthusiasm—she even rebukes his clumsy attempts at friendship.

With a piqued ego, Oliver gives Emily his phone number as he snarls: "You don't think I'm capable of finding a woman who would love me? In seven years, call that number and ask for me: I will prove you wrong!"

The years that follow illustrate a blossoming romance that springs from an unlikely friendship. The characters track divergent paths that intersect during momentous episodes in their lives. Does romance stand a chance?

Reminiscent of Yann Samuell's French romance, "Love Me If You Dare," Nigel Cole's predictable, featherweight rom-com yarn is only kept afloat by the lead actors' screen chemistry. Peet is spirited and engaging, while Kutcher, devoid of his annoying mannerisms, comes off as an amiable romantic lead.

Strictly for the staunchly romantic, the movie is a sleek but insubstantial romp that derives its feel-good spirit from contrived serendipity.

Emily does leave an intriguing moral that would have Yoda cheering: "If you're not willing to sound stupid, you don't deserve to be in love!"

### "Say That You Love Me"

D: Mac C. Alejandre
S: Jennylyn Mercado, Mark Herras

Sparks don't fly when Kristine (Jennylyn Mercado) and Stephen (Mark Herras) meet in an accident. But, despite the former's heavy hand—she verbally abuses and literally manhandles the poor, stuttering guy with punches, slaps, kicks, etc.—the couple ends up falling in love, anyway. You'd gape at how Stephen derives masochistic pleasure when

TWO/ A2-2

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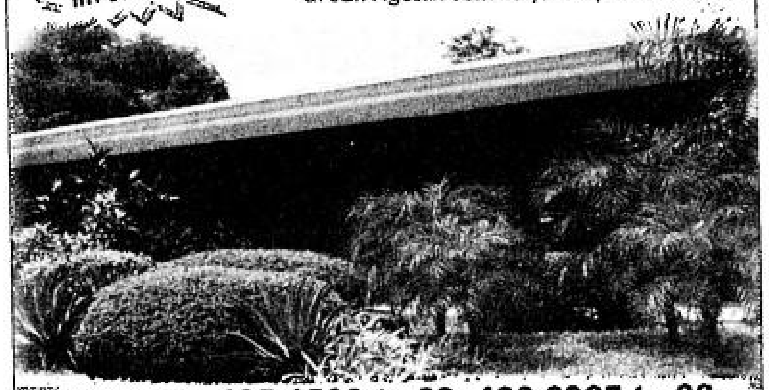

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a. A filled up form available at www.closeupplanet.com and participating malls
b. Any Colored ID Picture, preferably 2" x 2"
c. Any CloseUp Pack

Where and when to go
Submit the requirements at participating malls:
May 28 -29
SM Megamall - Atrium, Upper Level Building B
June 4-5
SM Cebu - Atrium Lower Ground
SM Davao - Entertainment Plaza Second Level
Naga - Plaza Quezon

NOW SHOWING
MTRCB R-13 STRICTLY FOR13 YRS. OLD AND ABOVE

"Wickedly terrifying!"
Chuck Thomas, KWRP-TV
PREY. SLAY. DISPLAY.
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BRIAN VAN HOLT
PARIS HILTON
JARED PADALECKI
HOUSE OF WAX
DARK CASTLE

MMTA
METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION
MOVIE GUIDE
NOW SHOWING

**SHANG CINEPLEX**
6th floor Shangri-la Plaza EDSA corner Shaw Boulevard, Mandaluyong City
Telephone: 633.2227 / 6337851 loc. 171
1 (DOLBY) A LOT LIKE LOVE PG13
2 (DOLBY) MADAGASCAR GP
3 (DOLBY) SIN CITY R13
4 (DOLBY) STARWARS: EPISODE-3 GP
PREMIERE
(DOLBY) MADAGASCAR GP

**Filinvest FESTIVAL CINEMA**
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72
1 (DDS) SHUTTER
2 (SDDS) STARWARS: EPISODE-3
3 (DTS) MADAGASCAR
4 GOLD (DTS) HOUSE OF WAX
5 GOLD (DOLBY) SIN CITY
6 GOLD (SDDS) A LOT LIKE LOVE
7 GOLD (DOLBY) COACH CARTER
8 LA VISA LOCA
9 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
10 UNLEASHED

**EASTWOOD CINEMAS**
(Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave (C-5) Quezon City)
tel 687.6963 or 72
1 (DOLBY) A LOT LIKE LOVE
2 (DOLBY) MADAGASCAR
3 (DOLBY) STARWARS: EPISODE-3
4 (DOLBY) SIN CITY

**CINEMA 2000**
Movie Theatres of the New Millenium

**Cinema 2000 Waltermart**
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383
1 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
2 (DTS) MADAGASCAR
3 (DOLBY) STARWARS: EPISODE-3
4 HOUSE OF WAX

**Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall**
(Biñan) tel (049) 411.1146
1 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
2 (DOLBY) MADAGASCAR
3 (DTS) STARWARS: EPISODE-3
4 HOUSE OF WAX

**Cinema 2000 Cinemagix**
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771
1 LA VISA LOCA
2 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
3 (DOLBY) RING OF NIBELUNGS

**Cinema 2000 Metrotown**
(Tarlac) tel (045) 982.1729
1 LA VISA LOCA
2 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
3 (DOLBY) STARWARS: EPISODE-3
4 (DTS) KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

**Cinema 2000 Waltermart**
(Plaridel) tel (044) 795.3320
1 GUESS WHO
2 LA VISA LOCA
3 (DOLBY) SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME

**CINEMA 2000**
**Cinema 2000 Waltermart Makati**
Waltermart Center, Chino Roces Ave. cor. Antonio Arnaiz Pio del Pilar, Makati City
Tel 816.4214 / 816.4216
1 STARWARS: EPISODE-3
2 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
3 A LOT LIKE LOVE
4 MADAGASCAR

**Blue Wave** MARQUINTON
Sumulong Highway cor. Mayor Gil Fernando Street, Sto. Niño, Marikina City tel. 9341924
1 SOON TO OPEN
2 SOON TO OPEN
3 SOON TO OPEN
4 SOON TO OPEN

**MARKETPLACE** Mandaluyong
tel 533.3851 / 533.3856
1 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
2 HOUSE OF WAX
3 YOUNG VERGIN
4 RESERVED

**Masagana CINEMA**
(Pasay) tel 833.3290 / 833.3274
1 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
2 MADAGASCAR
3 UNLEASHED

**Universal**
(Manila) tel 733.2470
1 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME

**starmall Movies**
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Mandaluyong) tel 724.4986
1 RESERVED
2 RESERVED
3 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL EX) SIN CITY
5 UNLEASHED

**METROPOLIS star**
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Alabang) tel 850.4285
1 UNLEASHED
2 SHUTTER
3 RESERVED
4 RESERVED
5 (DOLBY) SIN CITY
6 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME

**starmall Movies**
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Las Pinas) tel (047) 237.7007
1 (DOLBY) SHAOLIN VS. EVIL DEAD
2 RESERVED

**Jade Cinema**
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03
1 (DOLBY EX) STARWARS: EPISODE-3
2 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
3 (DTS EX) MADAGASCAR
4 LA VISA LOCA

**Cine Nepo**
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.0121
1 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
2 LA VISA LOCA
3 (DOLBY) MADAGASCAR
4 (DTS) STARWARS: EPISODE-3

**Cine Nepo**
(Dagupan City) tel (075) 515.8489
1 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
2 LA VISA LOCA
3 (DOLBY) RING OF NIBELUNGS
4 (DTS) GUESS WHO

**Centre Plaza Cinema**
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007
1 LA VISA LOCA
2 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

**Lianas Cinema**
(Alabang) tel 850.1276
1 (SDDS) NAIIBANG HAYOP
2 BAKAT
3 ACACIA
4 (DTS) SHUTTER

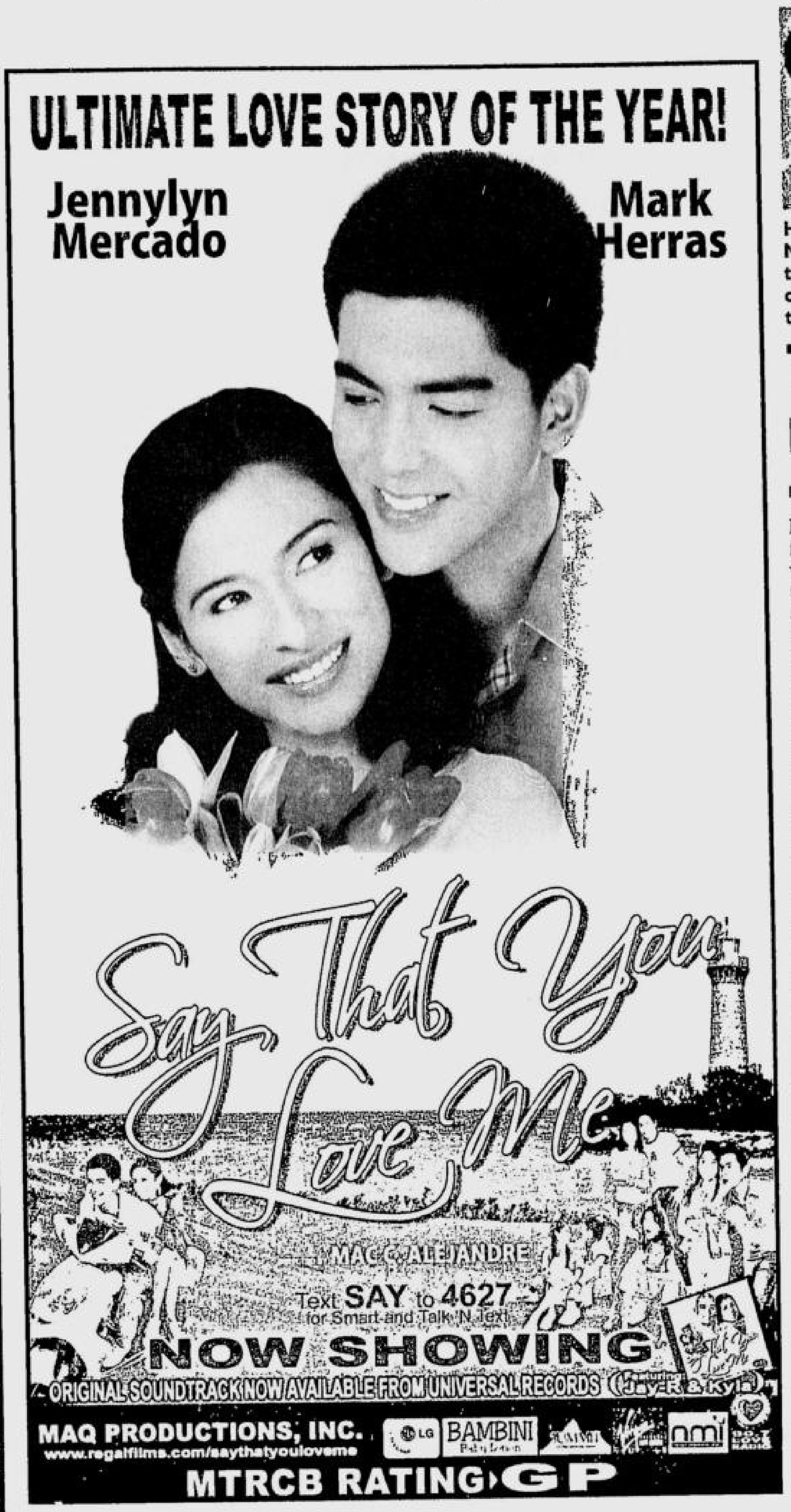
**Lianas MovieCity**
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202
1 (DOLBY) STARWARS: EPISODE-3
2 RING OF NIBELUNGS
3 (DTS) SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
4 MADAGASCAR
5 HOUSE OF WAX

**Mega Center Mall**
(Cabanatuan City) tel (044) 463.3283
1 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
2 STARWARS: EPISODE-3
3 (DTS) LA VISA LOCA
4 (DOLBY) SHAOLIN VS' EVIL DEAD

**Fiesta World Mall**
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790
1 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
2 SIX
3 GUESS WHO
4 STARWARS: EPISODE-3

**Berma Cinema**
(Baclaran) tel 879.2030 / 879.2029
1 MARITAL RAPE
2 LA VISA LOCA

MOVIES / SCHEDULES / PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE


ULTIMATE LOVE STORY OF THE YEAR!
Jennylyn Mercado
Mark Herras
Say That You Love Me
MAC C. ALEJANDRE
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NOW SHOWING
ORIGINAL SOUNDTRACK NOW AVAILABLE FROM UNIVERSAL RECORDS (featuring Jay-R & Kyla)
MAQ PRODUCTIONS, INC.
www.regalfilms.com/saythatyouloveme
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MTRCB RATING GP

Araneta Center **Leisure Guide**

Cineplex Grand Lobby

CINEMA SCHEDULES

Gateway CINEPLEX*10
LEVEL 4, GATEWAY MALL
The Country's Largest Cinema With The Widest Screen
DOLBY DIGITAL-EX
ONLY P99 ADMISSION • P120 RESERVED SEATS

FOR INQUIRIES, PLEASE CALL TICKETNET AT 911-5555

SIN CITY 12:50 / 3:35 / 6:20 / 9:05
SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME 12:10 / 2:30 / 4:50 / 7:10 / 9:30
A LOT LIKE LOVE 1:35 / 4:05 / 6:35 / 9:05
STAR WARS - EPISODE III 12:30 / 1:10 / 3:30 / 4:10 / 6:30/ 7:10 / 9:30 / 10:10
MADAGASCAR 1:20 / 3:20 / 5:20 / 7:20 / 9:20
COACH CARTER 12:30 / 3:20 / 6:10 / 9:00
UNLEASHED 12:30 / 2:40 / 4:50 / 7:00 / 9:10
SHUTTER 12:40 / 2:50 / 5:00 / 7:10 / 9:20
HOUSE OF WAX 1:20 / 4:00 / 6:40 / 9:20
GLOBE PLATINUM CINEMA P 249 / P299 STAR WARS - EPISODE III

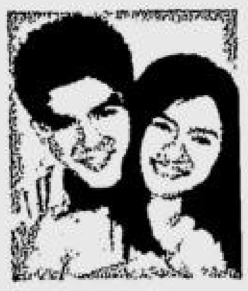
*3RD INTERNATIONAL PINK FILM FESTIVAL: June 3 - 12, 2005*
4pm PINOY PINKIES 6:30pm BATH HOUSE / FORMULA 17 W/ ALLEY 9pm AMERICAN PINK / EURO PINK

ALI MALL CINEMAS
❶ SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME 11:00 / 1:20 / 3:40 / 6:00 / 8:20
❷ SIN CITY 12:00 / 2:45 / 5:30 / 8:15
❸ UNLEASHED 11:25 / 1:35 / 3:45 / 5:55 / 8:05
❹ LA VISA LOCA 11:15 / 1:30 / 3:45 / 6:00 / 8:15
❺ MADAGASCAR 12:20 / 2:20 / 4:20 / 6:20 / 8:20
DOLBY DIGITAL dts SDDS

ARANETA COLISEUM EVENTS
NBA MUSIC & MADNESS
*June 4, Saturday, 8pm*
2005 PBA FIESTA CONFERENCE
*June 8, Wednesday, 7pm San Miguel vs. Alaska*
June 5, Sun 16th FIBA ASIA CHAMPIONS CUP
*Games Start: 12:30pm 2:45pm, 5:00pm, 7:15pm*
HILLSONG - REUBEN MORGAN LIVE
*June 11, Sat. 4-6pm Worship Seminar 7-9pm Worship*

CENTER EVENTS
NBA MADNESS 2005
June 2 to 5
Coliseum Parking
9am onwards
*3-on-3 Competitions! Basketball Clinics! Celebrity appearances! NBA Trivia Games! Dance Workshops! 3-Point Shootout Contests! Fun games like NBA 2-Ball & Free Throw Frenzy! Special performances by your favorite bands and the HOUSTON ROCKETS POWER DANCERS! Meet and greet Orlando Magic's DWIGHT HOWARD & LA Lakers' LUKE WALTON! Get the chance to win 1 million in Coke's SHOT FOR A MILLION!*

LOG ON TO www.aranetacenter.net FOR MORE DETAILS OR TO SUBSCRIBE TO OUR WEEKLY E-MAIL ENTERTAINMENT UPDATES



**HERRAS AND MERCADO.** Manage to give their characters a sense of truth.

# Two new...

From page A2-1

he falls, literally and figuratively, for a woman—a growling tigress one moment, a dainty daisy the next—who constantly yelps at him like a coyote! She even taunts him, calling him *bakla* for backing away from three Godzilla-sized thugs. Otherwise, there's no real tension that holds the film's story together.

To be fair, the onscreen chemistry between Mercado and Herras is evident, and the young actors manage to give their respective characters a sense of truth.

But, not even these advantages could salvage the duo from an awkward hodgepodge of side plots in the narrative (a "Message in a Bottle"-like side story, a loving gay couple, etc.); a soundtrack that irritates more than it entertains; one-dimensional characters, and tired jokes:

There's a running gag about Kristine's florist cousin, Friday (the scene-stealing Tuesday Vargas), who chooses roses over chrysanthemums and anthuriums, simply because she has difficulty spelling the latter two!

But, Alejandre's film also manages some plus points: The inclusion of the cuddly Hollman twins, KC and Bebs, who shine despite the freak-show treatment of their characters, and the production's decision to gamble on promising newcomers (notably Nadine Samonte, Megan Young).

Similarly, the movie delivers optimistic messages about the indispensability of family in times of trial, and sacrificing personal fulfillment for love.

## "Sin City"

D: Robert Rodriguez, Frank Miller, Quentin Tarantino

S: Bruce Willis, Josh Hartnett, Elijah Wood, Jessica Alba

Robert Rodriguez turns in a visually stunning albeit ultraviolent big-screen "translation" of Frank Miller's "Sin City" graphic novels, based on three stories: "The Hard Goodbye," "The Big Fat Kill" and "That Yellow Bastard," including segments from "A Dame to Kill For" and "The Customer Is Always Right."

Shot primarily in glossy black-and-white, with vivid splashes of crimson red, neon green, fluorescent white and golden yellow, the star-studded movie—one of the world's first "fully-digital" live action motion

TWO/ A2-5

# New Order revisits its youthful themes in 'Sirens' Call'

**By Noelani Torre**

THERE'S nothing on the cover of New Order's newest album but a big, orange NO. They don't need anything else to identify them: After more than two decades of ground- and rule-breaking music, the only people who don't know what New Order stands for are those who live under rocks.

Formerly known as the remains of Joy Division after the suicide of vocalist Ian Curtis, New Order went on to chart a new course for themselves, one that made waves all throughout the '80s and beyond. Without them, there would be no Franz Ferdinand, Bloc Party, the Killers, Interpol, and countless other bands they've influenced.

## Comeback

There's nothing left for them to prove, which is why "Waiting for the Sirens' Call" comes as a surprise—especially since it comes so soon after "Get Ready," their 2001 comeback. But then, New Order has never been known for its predictability. After all, this is the band that introduced a disco-weary generation to the idiosyncratic appeal of melancholic electronica, and proved itself adept at riding the ever-changing currents of pop music.

New Order has never been afraid of experimentation. In fact, they're well-known for producing bizarre tracks that eventually become the next in-thing. But, this is the one thing they hardly ever do in "Sirens' Call."

If they tried to sound rockier in "Get Ready," here they revisit the themes of their youth, and of their synth-pop/electronic/dance floor heyday. This is New Order circa mid-'80s, and though we expect more innovation, they could do much worse than sound like themselves at their best.

## Unexciting introduction

The album kicks off with "Who's Joe?"—though "kicks off" may not be the best way to describe it. The song isn't one of their better ones, and it makes for a rather unexciting introduction. They start hitting their stride in the second track, "Hey Now What You Doing," but it's in the title track that they finally clinch it.

Vocalist Bernard Stumner still sounds like somebody half his age—and a spaced-out somebody, at that. Peter Hook's bass still kicks ass, and drummer Stephen Morris is very much in the groove.

Replacing the now-retired keyboardist Gillian Gilbert is guitarist Phil Cunningham. Plus, all the over-produced atmospherics we know and love are present and accounted for.

## 25 years

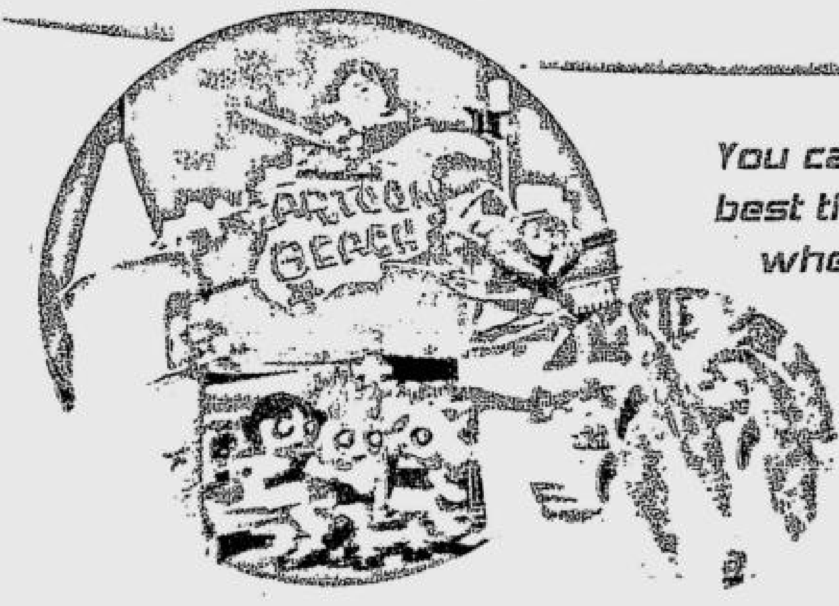
In their eighth studio album in 25 years, New Order shows us that even though they're already pushing 50, they can still sound as sprightly and cutting-edge as artists decades younger. They seem determined to keep playing until they drop, and we hope they do—keep playing, that is.

Anybody who can make a cringe-inducing lyric like "Out there, the world is a beautiful place/ with mountains, lakes and the human race" sound like the coolest thing ever uttered is worth listening to!

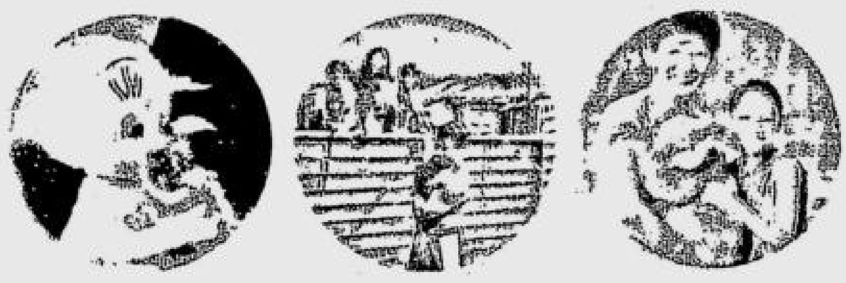
**NEW ORDER.** Nothing left to prove.

We'll fly you to Australia!

B&B Kids Gold Coast Adventure Raffle



You can win a 4-night trip to visit Gold Coast's best theme parks, including Australia's Sea World where you can meet the Powerpuff Girls!



AUSTRALIA'S SEA WORLD GOLD COAST

GOLD COAST AUSTRALIA

PARADISE COUNTRY
AUSSIE FARM TOUR
GOLD COAST AUSTRALIA

1. Buy any B&B product from May 1 to July 31, 2005.
2. Enclose the label or cap in a legal-sized envelope with a paper that has your name, address, phone number, PLUS the name of the outlet where you bought the B&B product.
3. Mail your entries on or before August 5, 2005 to Kino Consumer Philippines – 1234 Southbay Compound, Villonco Rd., Sucat, Parañaque.
4. **Grand Prize** (1 winner) : 4-night trip to Gold Coast, Australia inclusive of plane fare, hotel accommodations, admission to Australia's Sea World, Warner Bros. Movie World, Paradise Country Aussie Farm Tour, and Wet 'n' Wild Water World, plus US$300 pocket money
   **2nd Prize** (5 winners) : 1 Powerpuff Girls Carnival Set each
   **3rd Prize** (10 winners) : 1 Powerpuff Girls Dress-Me-Up Fashion Dolls Set each
5. Raffle draw is on August 10, 2005.

See posters for details.

Get up close and personal with dolphins, sharks, polar bears, seals, and other marine life at Australia's Sea World. Plus, enjoy a day at Warner Bros. Movie World where everyone's a star. Experience the fun Gold Coast beach lifestyle at Wet 'n' Wild Water World. Visit a traditional Aussie farm where you can cuddle a koala... and much more!

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Per DOH-BFAD Permit No. 0514 Series of 2005

Surfing at the Carpark!

Former Virra Mall tenants are temporarily housed at Annapolis Carpark.

ANNAPOLIS CARPARK ARCADE

VIRRA MALL >>>>>

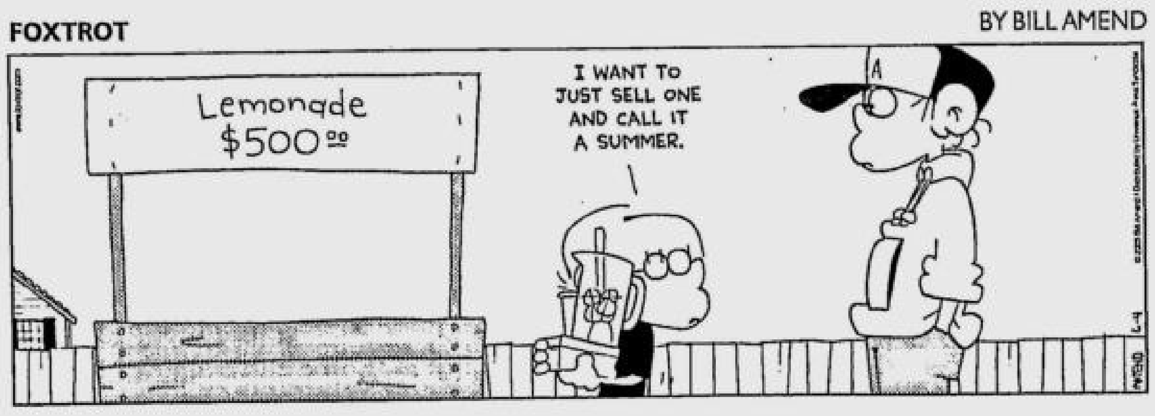
The former Virra Mall is under renovation until December to provide better customer service. The usual computer, video, and technical gadget stores are currently relocated to Annapolis Carpark - covered and complete with air-conditioning for the convenience of shoppers. Because only at Greenhills Shopping Center can you surf the latest gadget finds even at the carpark!

GREENHILLS

www.greenhills.com.ph

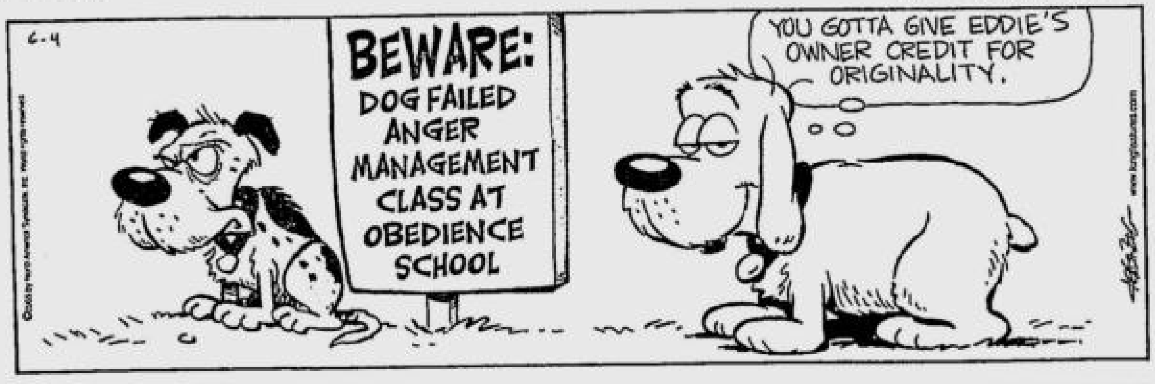
**FOXTROT**

BY BILL AMEND


Lemonade $500.00
I WANT TO JUST SELL ONE AND CALL IT A SUMMER.

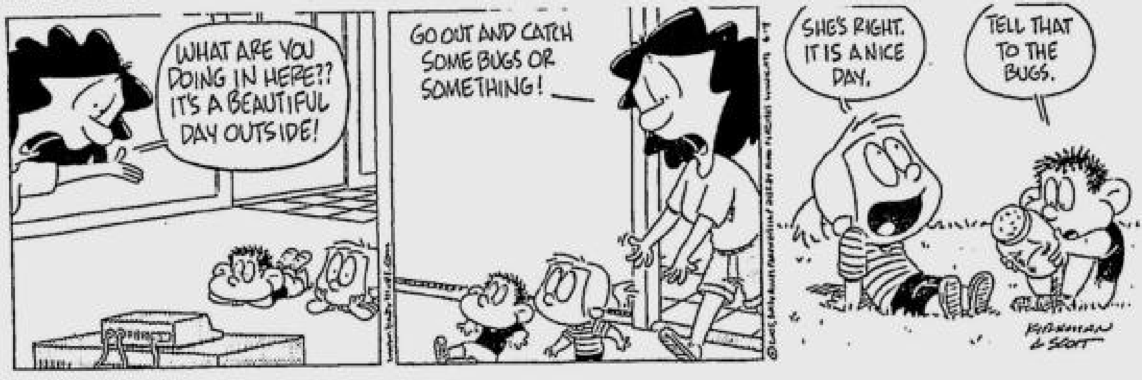
**MARVIN**

BY TOM ARMSTRONG


6-4
BEWARE: DOG FAILED ANGER MANAGEMENT CLASS AT OBEDIENCE SCHOOL
YOU GOTTA GIVE EDDIE'S OWNER CREDIT FOR ORIGINALITY.

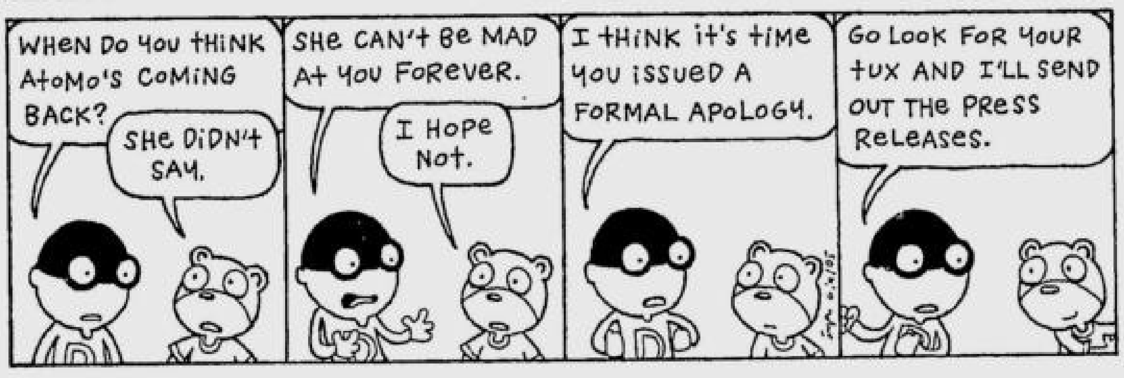
**BABY BLUES**

BY JERRY SCOTT


WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN HERE?? IT'S A BEAUTIFUL DAY OUTSIDE!
GO OUT AND CATCH SOME BUGS OR SOMETHING!
SHE'S RIGHT. IT IS A NICE DAY.
TELL THAT TO THE BUGS.
KIRKMAN & SCOTT

**ATOMO AND WEBOY**

BY LYRA GARCELLANO


WHEN DO YOU THINK ATOMO'S COMING BACK?
SHE DIDN'T SAY.
SHE CAN'T BE MAD AT YOU FOREVER.
I HOPE NOT.
I THINK IT'S TIME YOU ISSUED A FORMAL APOLOGY.
GO LOOK FOR YOUR TUX AND I'LL SEND OUT THE PRESS RELEASES.

## HOROSCOPE

BY FRANCIS DRAKE

**YOU BORN TODAY:** You have a quick mind and strong verbal skills. You adore learning and travel. You master technical skills and are often an expert in something. You have excellent organizational abilities. You can be a leader, but you're happiest when working as a team. The year ahead is extremely fortunate for you—perhaps one of the best of your life.

**Birthdate of:** Angelina Jolie, actress; Noah Wyle, actor; Dr. Ruth Westheimer, sex therapist.

**ARIES (March 21 to April 19):** You can accomplish a lot today. You're willing to do your homework. You will research, dig deep and leave no stone unturned to find out what you need to know.

**GEMINI (May 21 to June 20):** You're ambitious today, but you're also sensible. You're willing to work hard to secure your long-range future in something that is important.

**LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22):** You're willing to work on behalf of others. You're willing to teach others how to use their resources or improve what they already have.

**TAURUS (April 20 to May 20):** Collective effort with others, especially those who are older or more experienced than you, can yield good results today. Join the team! Learn from the experience of others.

**CANCER (June 21 to July 22):** Make travel plans or plans connected with publishing, the media or higher education today. You're taking a long-range view of things.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22):** Work in conjunction with somebody else today. More hands make the work lighter and go by faster. This collective effort will really pay off.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22):** Co-workers are helpful today. (Nobody's being a prima donna.) Everyone has an attitude about simply "getting the job done."

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21):** Parents are concerned about their children's education. Others want to know how long a romance will last. You want to know what the future holds.

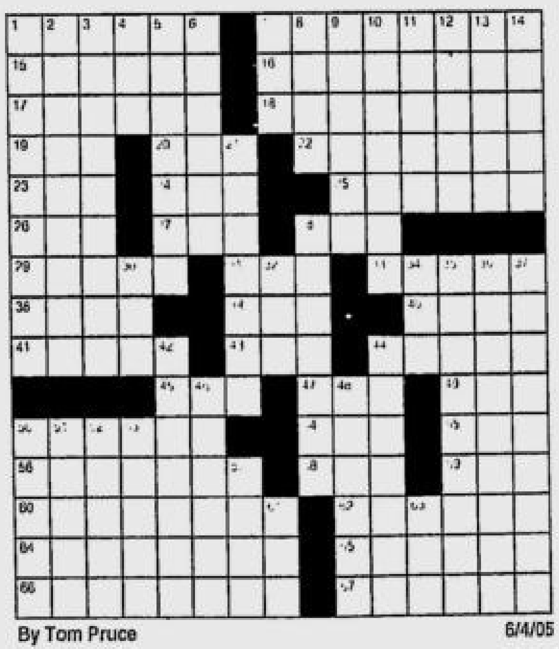
**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21):** Chaos and lots of activity are taking place at home. This could be due to renovations, residential moves or visiting guests. Today, others will help you deal with shared possessions.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19):** This is the perfect day to make long-range plans about anything. You can also teach others how to look ahead and save for a rainy day. You have lots of common sense today.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18):** Whatever you buy today, you want it to be useful, practical and last a long time. You're not frivolous about money matters now. Quite the opposite! You also want to know more about your future earnings.

**PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20):** This is an excellent day to work on creative projects. Work with children as well. You have a grounded, sensible approach to creative activities and the hospitality industry. (Flirtation with someone older is also likely!)

## DAILY CROSSWORD



By Tom Pruce
Chicago, IL

6/4/05

ACROSS
1 Reply
7 Hunger
15 Karl or Moses
16 Hawaiian volcano
17 Cattle labels
18 Phantoms
19 Coffee container
20 Abandon truth
22 Apportion
23 Young bloke
24 Newspaper honchos
25 Outlined
26 Goddess of folly
27 Matched outfit
28 "William Wilson" writer
29 Becomes fatigued
31 Corn serving
33 "Blume in Love" star George
38 Mr. Knievel
39 Before, in verse
40 Oahu goose
41 Feudal laborers
43 Part of MD
44 Food from heaven
45 Snaky shape
47 Clare of "Bleak House"
49 Sen. Kennedy
50 Type of locomotive
54 Up to, briefly
55 Fall behind
56 Triathlete
58 Pic blowup
59 Right angle
60 Circuit controller
62 Persian Gulf peninsula
64 Certain stitchers
65 Black birds
66 Human CPUs
67 Wasp wounds

DOWN
1 Walks about
2 Story
3 Stigmatizer
4 Ton lead-in
5 Continuous
6 Live
7 Morning hrs.
8 "A Chorus Line" producer
9 __ Vallarta, Mexico
10 Repeat performances
11 Carpathian range
12 Of the intestines
13 Rich cake
14 Palliated
21 Holds in high regard
28 Happen earlier
30 Hobbit ally
32 Live and breathe
34 Former queen of Spain
35 Classic Dennis Weaver TV series
36 Strengthening with heat
37 Fancy window filler
42 For all appearances
44 Shopaholic-to-be?
46 Helen of "City Slickers"
48 Currencies of Iraq and Kuwait
50 Daggers
51 Peace in Greece
52 Red dye
53 Agitated states
57 Purple seaweed
61 N. Mandela's country
63 Fauna starter?

Friday's Puzzle Solved

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S | L | A | B | S | | F | A | B | L | E | | P | A | D |
| L | A | D | L | E | | A | L | L | E | N | | R | R | R |
| A | X | I | A | L | | Y | O | U | N | G | L | A | D | Y |
| G | L | E | N | D | A | | N | E | O | | I | D | O | L |
| | Y | U | K | O | N | T | E | R | R | I | T | O | R | Y |
| | | | E | M | I | R | | | E | T | E | | | |
| W | O | H | D | | T | I | N | A | | T | R | A | S | H |
| E | R | A | | F | A | R | A | W | A | Y | | T | A | U |
| S | C | H | W | A | | E | T | A | L | | W | I | L | T |
| | | | R | L | S | | | R | E | A | R | | | |
| Y | A | L | E | U | N | I | V | E | R | S | I | T | Y | |
| O | N | U | S | | A | N | I | | T | I | T | H | E | D |
| Y | E | S | T | E | R | D | A | Y | | A | T | O | N | E |
| O | N | T | | L | E | I | L | A | | N | E | S | T | S |
| S | T | Y | | F | R | E | S | H | | S | N | E | A | K |

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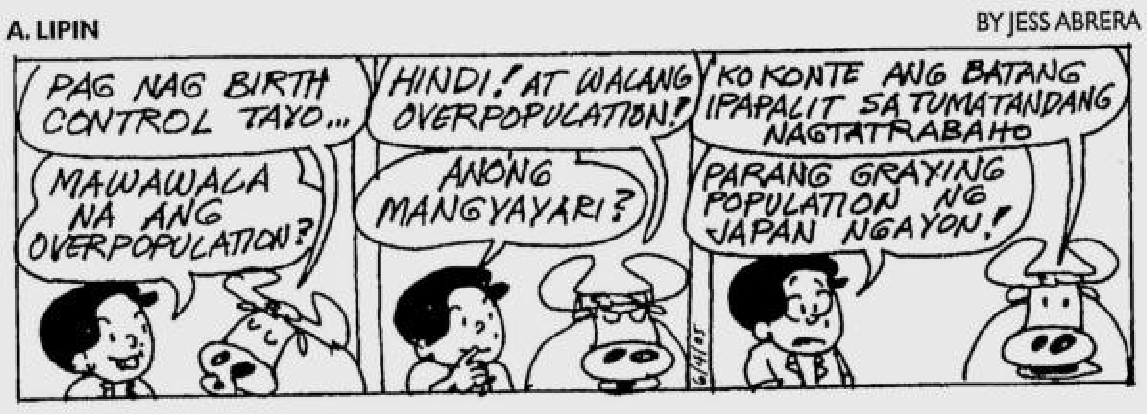
6/4/05

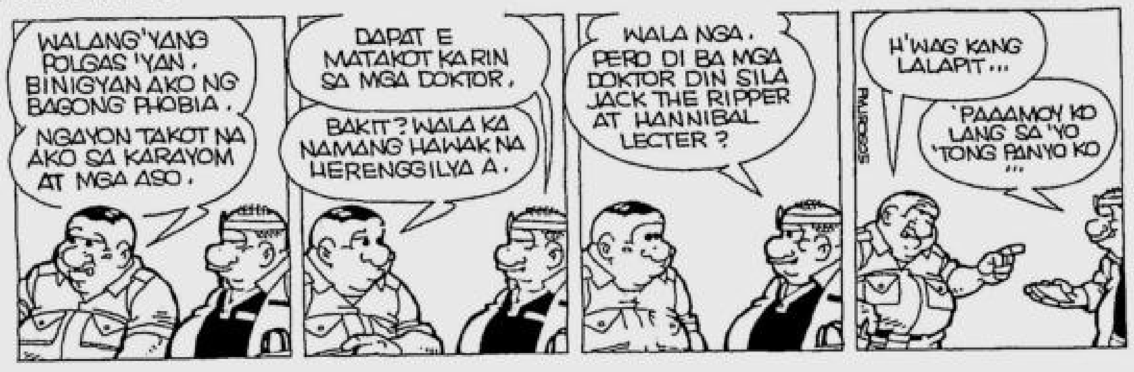
**A. LIPIN**

BY JESS ABRERA


PAG NAG BIRTH CONTROL TAYO...
MAWAWALA NA ANG OVERPOPULATION?
HINDI! AT WALANG OVERPOPULATION!
ANONG MANGYAYARI?
KO KONTE ANG BATANG IPAPALIT SA TUMATANDANG NAGTATRABAHO
PARANG GRAYING POPULATION NG JAPAN NGAYON!
6/4/05

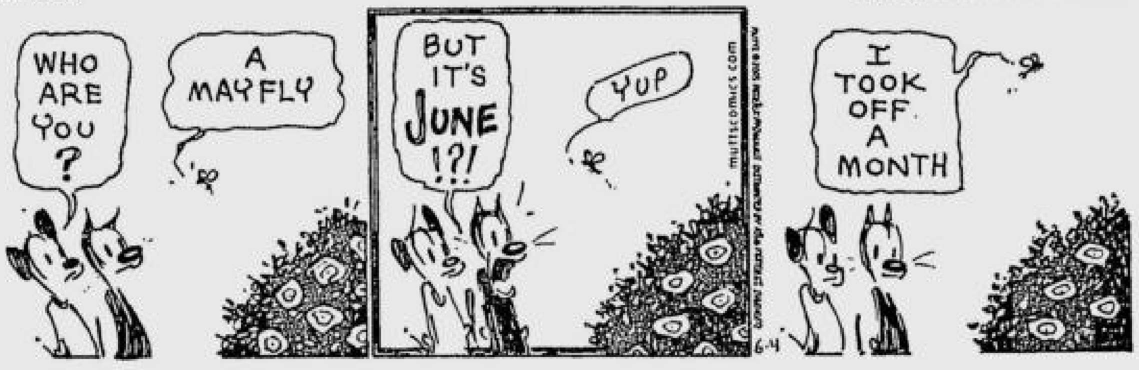
**PUGAD BABOY**

BY P.M. JUNIOR


WALANG 'YANG POLGAS 'YAN. BINIGYAN AKO NG BAGONG PHOBIA.
NGAYON TAKOT NA AKO SA KARAYOM AT MGA ASO.
DAPAT E MATAKOT KA RIN SA MGA DOKTOR.
BAKIT? WALA KA NAMANG HAWAK NA HERENGGILYA A.
WALA NGA. PERO DI BA MGA DOKTOR DIN SILA JACK THE RIPPER AT HANNIBAL LECTER?
H'WAG KANG LALAPIT...
'PAAAMOY KO LANG SA 'YO 'TONG PANYO KO...

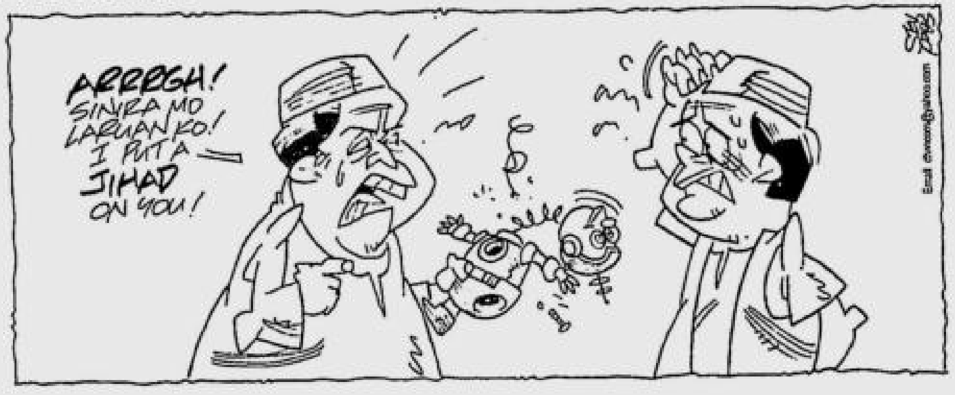
**MUTTS**

BY PATRICK McDONNELL


WHO ARE YOU?
A MAYFLY
BUT IT'S JUNE !?!
YUP
I TOOK OFF A MONTH
muttscomics.com
6-4

**DIVINE COMEDY**

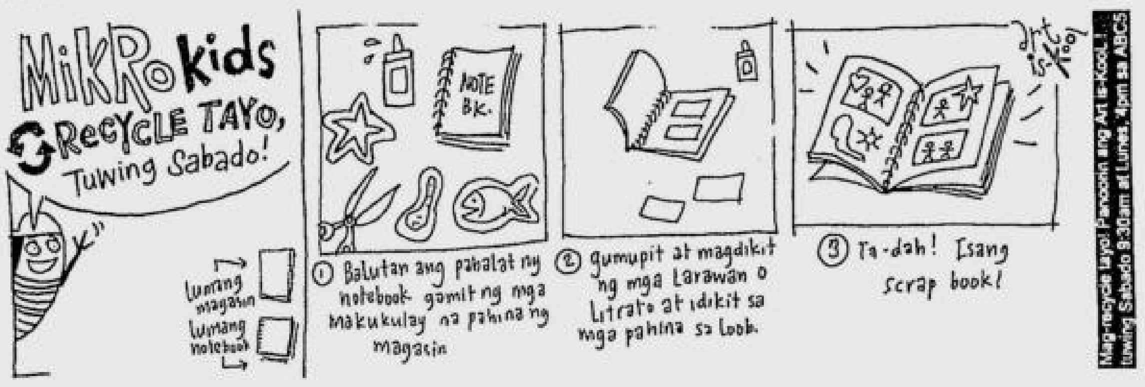
BY STEVEN PABALINAS


ARRRGH! SINIRA MO LARUAN KO! I PUT A JIHAD ON YOU!

**BOY BIN LADEN**

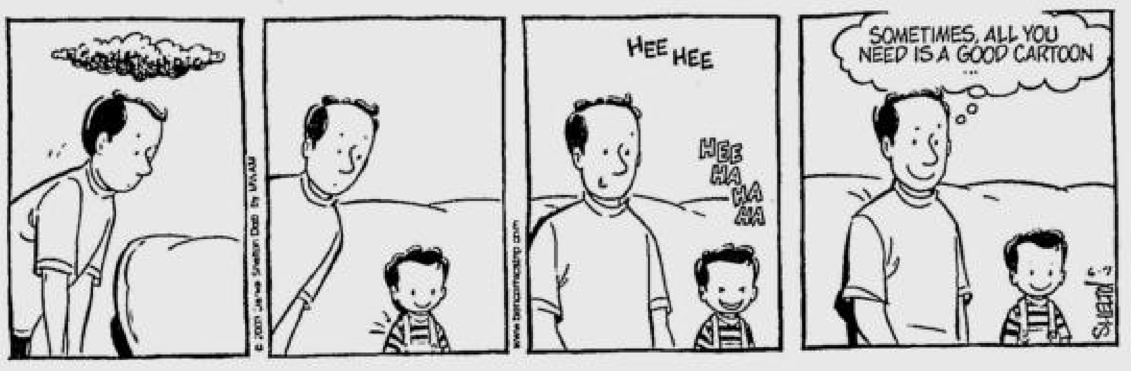
**MIKROKOSMOS**

BY JOMIKE TEJIDO


MiKRo Kids
RECYCLE TAYO, Tuwing Sabado!
lumang magasin
lumang notebook
NOTE BK.
① Balutan ang pabalat ng notebook gamit ng mga makukulay na pahina ng magasin
② gumupit at magdikit ng mga larawan o litrato at idikit sa mga pahina sa loob.
③ Ta-dah! Isang scrap book!
art is kool

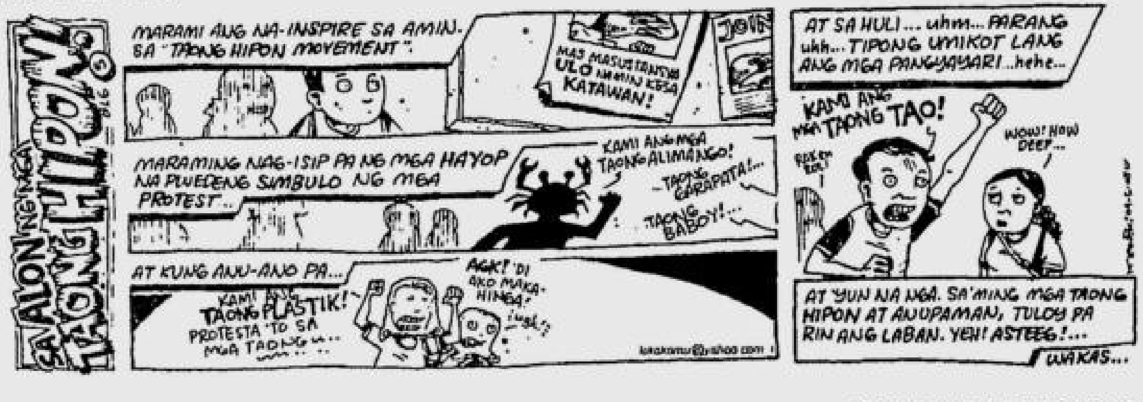
**BEN**

BY DANIEL SHELTON


HEE HEE
HEE HA HA HA
SOMETIMES, ALL YOU NEED IS A GOOD CARTOON ...
6-7

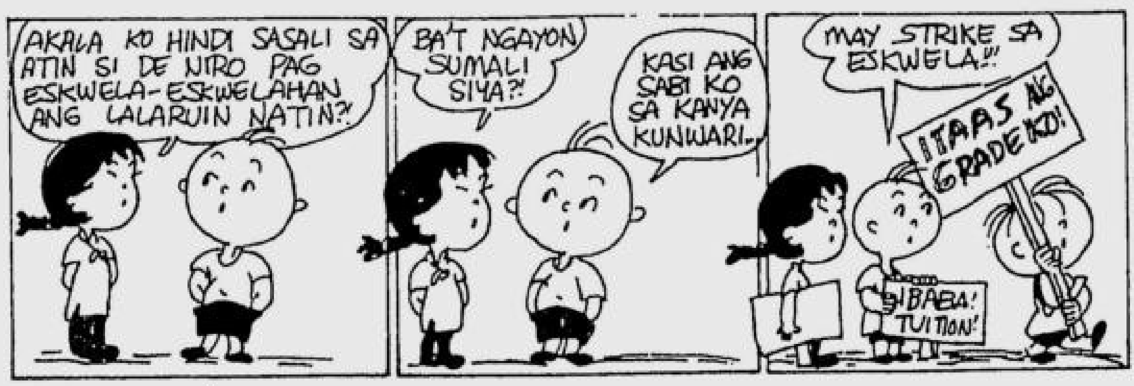
**KIKO MACHINE**

BY MANIX ABRERA


SA ALON NG MGA TAONG HIPON!
MARAMI ANG NA-INSPIRE SA AMIN. SA "TAONG HIPON MOVEMENT".
MAS MASUSTANSYA ULO NAMIN KESA KATAWAN!
MARAMING NAG-ISIP PA NG MGA HAYOP NA PWEDENG SIMBULO NG MGA PROTEST...
KAMI ANG MGA TAONG ALIMANGO!
TAONG GARAPATA!
TAONG BABOY!
AT KUNG ANU-ANO PA...
KAMI ANG TAONG PLASTIK!
PROTESTA 'TO SA MGA TAONG...
AGK! 'DI AKO MAKA-HINGA!
AT SA HULI... uhm... PARANG ukh... TIPONG UMIKOT LANG ANG MGA PANGYAYARI...hehe...
KAMI ANG MGA TAONG TAO!
WOW! HOW DEEP...
AT 'YUN NA NGA. SA'MING MGA TAONG HIPON AT ANUPAMAN, TULOY PA RIN ANG LABAN. YEH! ASTEEG!...
WAKAS...

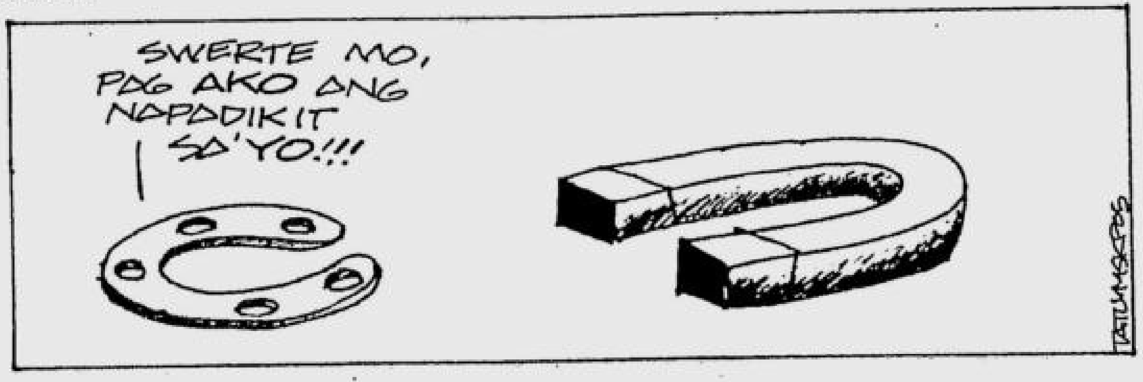
**LOVEKNOTS**

BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


AKALA KO HINDI SASALI SA ATIN SI DE NIRO PAG ESKWELA-ESKWELAHAN ANG LALARUIN NATIN?!
BA'T NGAYON SUMALI SIYA?!
KASI ANG SABI KO SA KANYA KUNWARI.
MAY STRIKE SA ESKWELA!!
ITAAS ANG GRADE KO!
IBABA! TUITION!

**TULDOK**

BY PAPU AND TATUM MILAMBILING


SWERTE MO, PAG AKO ANG NAPADIKIT SA'YO!!!
TATUMSPOS

# Two new films . . .

From page A2-2

OWEN. Leads cast of "Sin City."

pictures—was filmed on a "digital backlot" with High-Definition digital cameras, with the actors shot in front of a green screen and the backgrounds added during post-production.

Unlike Kerry Conran's "Sky Captain," however, the broodingly noirish film drips with style, and bristles with its parallel storylines that interweave and entangle: a May-December story arc between Hartigan (Bruce Willis), a disgraced detective, and Nancy, a distraught girl (Jessica Alba)—48 years his junior—whom he saves from a homicidal pedophile (Nick Stahl).

In another story, Marv, a facially-deformed misanthrope (Mickey Rourke), wages an all-out war against a flesh-eating, high-flying serial killer (Elijah Wood) and his benefactor, Cardinal Roark (Rutger Hauer), after the beautiful woman he sleeps with is killed.

Elsewhere in crime-infested Basin City, ex-photographer Dwight (Clive Owen), teams up with Amazon-like prostitutes led by Gail (Rosario Dawson) against a villainous cop (Benicio del Toro) and his minions. —Don't say we didn't warn you!

Consistently engaging but occasionally confounding (people don't die even after hundreds of bullets tear through their bodies!), the movie is populated by characters that capture the viewer's curiosity in their struggle to inhabit a harsh, cold world. In this lurid, otherworldly dimension, the name of the game is survival.

# Class act . . .

From page A2-1

that she could end up surprising even herself.

Having said that, we must go beyond nit-picking critique, and rave about what to us is the best suite of songs in the show: Its medley of songs identified with Marilyn Monroe.

Rialp stages this musical suite beautifully, and Kuh, Shiela and Lana are veritable visions of sweet sexiness in their pink gowns, white gloves and cascading gems as they perform "Diamonds Are a Girl's Best Friends" and other Monroe anthems.

## Musical suites

The show isn't as effective in spots and is generally too long, but this and other outstanding musical suites make it a must-see production in our book.

Kuh's Captain's Bar show has just ended its run, but you're in luck: It's having repeats on June 10, 11, 16 and 17. Do yourself a favor and be there when it makes its triumphant return to the Mandarin.

SHANG CINEPLEX

1 A LOT LIKE LOVE
MTRCB: PG-13
11:25, 2:00, 4:35, 7:10, 9:50

2 MADAGASCAR
MTRCB: GP
12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00

3 SIN CITY
MTRCB: R-13
11:10, 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50

4 STAR WARS III
MTRCB: GP
10:40, 1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 10:00

PREMIERE THEATRE MADAGASCAR
MTRCB GP 12:10, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:30
Movies and schedules are subject to change without prior notice

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For inquiries, call:
687-6963
GUARANTEED SEATS
MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

1 A LOT LIKE LOVE
12:30, 3:05, 5:40
8:15, 10:50
PG-13

2 MADAGASCAR
10:50, 1:00, 3:05,
5:20, 7:25, 10:15
GP

3 STAR WARS III: REVENGE OF THE SITH
11:05, 1:50, 4:40
7:30, 10:20
GP

4 SIN CITY
12:20, 3:00, 5:40
8:20, 10:50
R-13

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NOW SHOWING

CINEMA 1 COACH CARTER
PG13
11:00, 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:15

CINEMA 2 MADAGASCAR
GP
12:15, 2:25, 4:35, 6:45, 9:00

DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND • EX

PROMENADE
GREENHILLS
...a dinetertainment for all!

NOW SHOWING

CINEMA 3 STARWARS: Episode III
GP
11:15, 4:10, 7:05, 10:00

CINEMA 4 SIN CITY
R13
11:00, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:10

CINEMA 5 A LOT LIKE LOVE
PG13
12:10, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15

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MUSIC MUSEUM
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FOR INQUIRIES & RESERVATION, PLS. CALL : 721-6726 OR 721-0635

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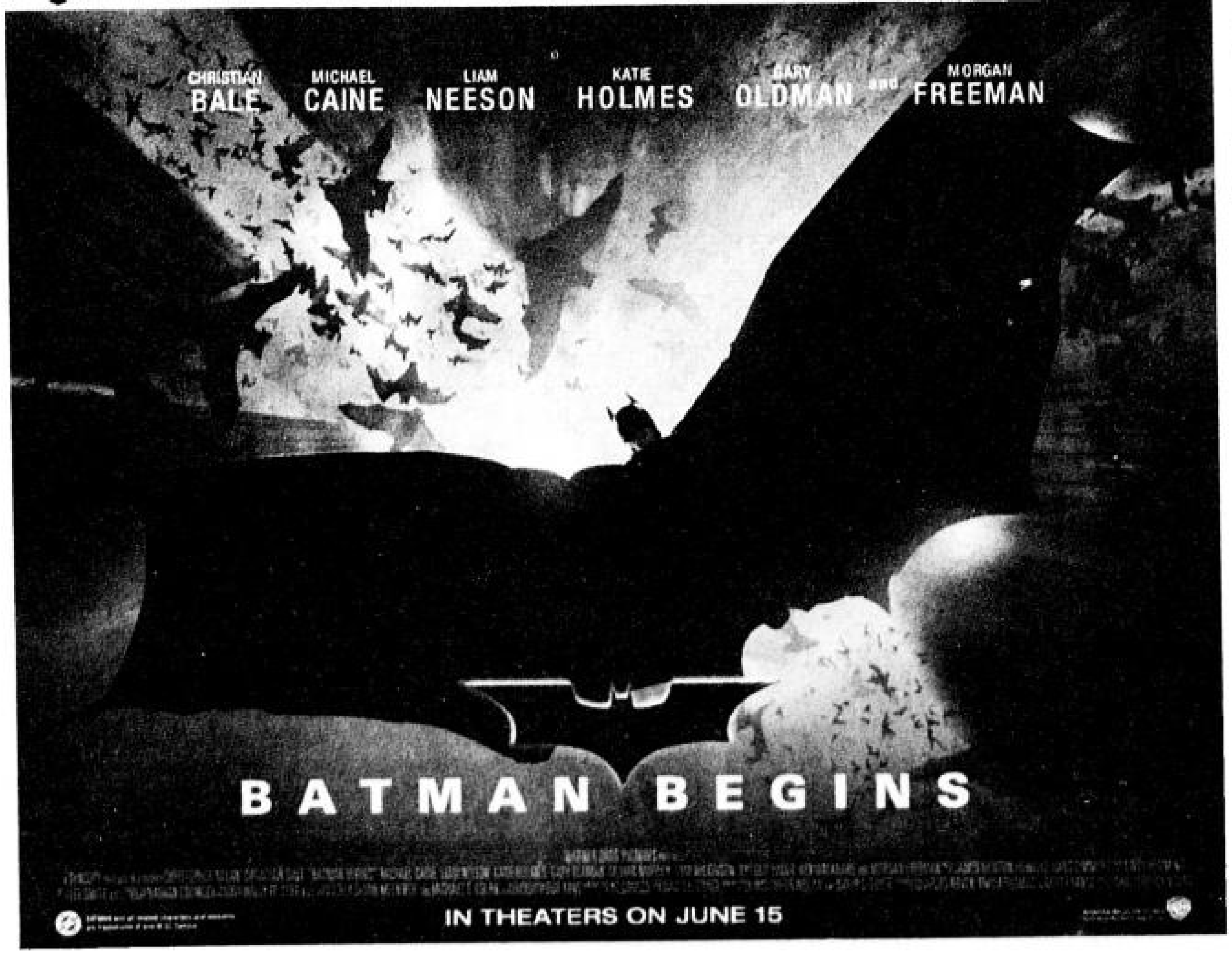
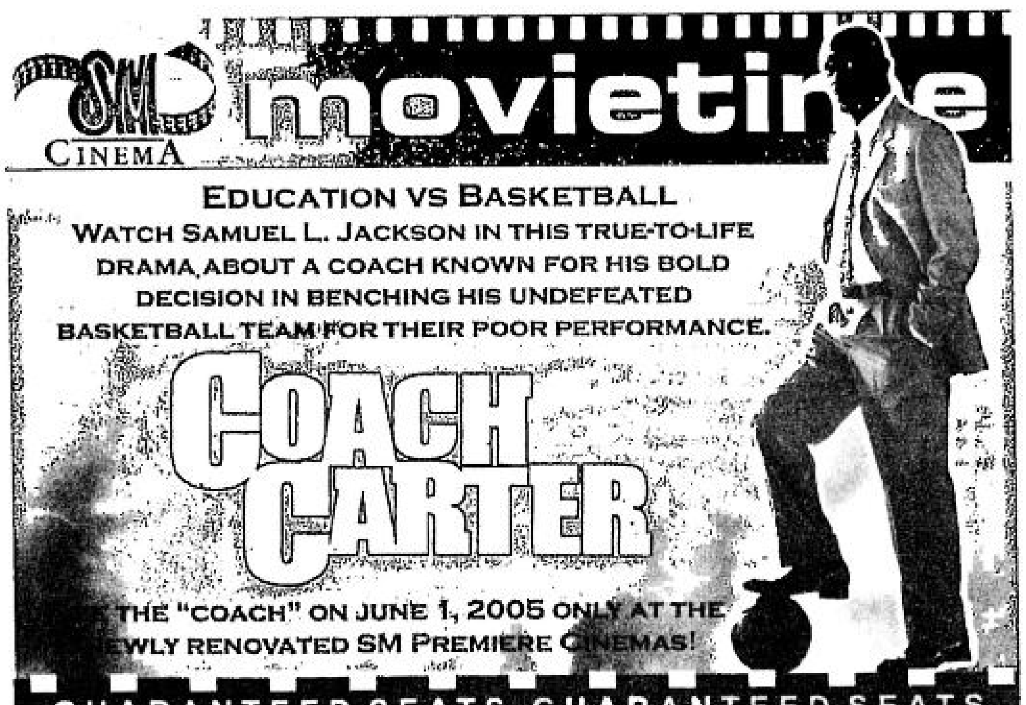
Shangri-La Plaza





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GUARANTEED SEATS GUARANTEED SEATS

the podium cinema
1 A LOT LIKE LOVE / CINEMA 1
2 MADAGASCAR / CINEMA 2
633-8976

the megamall cinema 1
UNLEASHED
633-1901

the cebu cinema 1
1 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
2 SIN CITY
3 STARWARS: EPISODE III

smcinemaexclusive

MTRCB Rating: G (All Ages Admitted)
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AND THE HUNDRED ACRE WOOD GANG
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POOH'S HEFFALUMP MOVIE!
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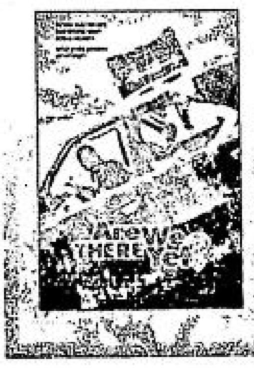
smcinema exclusive



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METRO MANILA

sm megamall
1 SIN CITY
2 MADAGASCAR
3 HOUSE OF WAX
4 UNLEASHED
5 CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
6 CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
7 COACH CARTER
8 LA VISA LOCA
9 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
10 STARWARS: EPISODE III
11 TRUMPETS
12 A LOT LIKE LOVE

sm city sta mesa
1 STARWARS: EPISODE III
2 MADAGASCAR
3 SIN CITY
4 SHUTTER
5 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
6 LA VISA LOCA
7 UNLEASHED
8 COACH CARTER
9 A LOT LIKE LOVE
10 HOUSE OF WAX

sm cinema tutuban
1 RESERVED
2 RESERVED
3 RESERVED
4 RESERVED

sm city fairview
1 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
2 HOUSE OF WAX
3 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
4 STARWARS: EPISODE III
5 LA VISA LOCA
6 A LOT LIKE LOVE
7 SIN CITY
8 MADAGASCAR
9 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
10 UNLEASHED
11 COACH CARTER
12 SHUTTER

sm city southmall
1 STARWARS: EPISODE III
2 MADAGASCAR
3 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
4 SIN CITY
5 ARE WE THERE YET?
6 LA VISA LOCA
7 COACH CARTER
8 UNLEASHED
9 A LOT LIKE LOVE
10 SHUTTER

sm supercenter sucat
1 LA VISA LOCA
2 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
3 STARWARS: EPISODE III
4 A LOT LIKE LOVE

sm north edsa
1 SIN CITY
2 SHUTTER
3 CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
4 POOH'S HEFFALUMP
5 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME.
6 A LOT LIKE LOVE
7 STARWARS: EPISODE III
8 MADAGASCAR

sm city manila
1 HOUSE OF WAX
2 A LOT LIKE LOVE
3 ANG LAGUSAN
4 STARWARS: EPISODE III
5 MADAGASCAR
6 UNLEASHED
7 COACH CARTER
8 SIN CITY
9 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
10 BIKINI OPEN
11 SHUTTER
12 LA VISA LOCA

sm city bicutan
1 SIN CITY
2 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
3 A LOT LIKE LOVE
4 STARWARS: EPISODE III

LUZON

sm city pampanga
1 STARWARS: EPISODE III
2 MADAGASCAR
3 UNLEASHED
4 LA VISA LOCA
5 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
6 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME

sm city baguio
1 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
2 MADAGASCAR
3 STARWARS: EPISODE III
4 GUESS WHO

sm city bacoor
1 A LOT LIKE LOVE
2 UNLEASHED
3 MADAGASCAR
4 SIN CITY
5 STARWARS: EPISODE III
6 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
7 SHUTTER
8 LA VISA LOCA

sm city marilao
1 MADAGASCAR
2 SHUTTER
3 LA VISA LOCA
4 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME

sm city dasmariñas
1 HOUSE OF WAX
2 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
3 A LOT LIKE LOVE
4 MADAGASCAR

sm city lucena
1 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
2 STARWARS: EPISODE III
3 GUESS WHO
4 LA VISA LOCA

sm city cagayan de oro
1 RING OF THE NIBELUNGS
2 GUESS WHO
3 SAY THAT YOU LOV EME
4 STARWARS: EPISODE III

VISAYAS AND MINDANAO

sm city cebu
1 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
2 SIN CITY
3 STARWARS: EPISODE III
4 MADAGASCAR
5 STARWARS: EPISODE III
6 LA VISA LOCA
7 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
8 UNLEASHED

sm city iloilo
1 IN GOOD COMPANY
2 RESERVED
3 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
4 MADAGASCAR
5 LA VISA LOCA
6 STARWARS: EPISODE III
7 RESERVED
8 THE AMITYVILLE HORROR

sm city davao
1 STARWARS: EPISODE III
2 ONG BAK
3 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
4 MADAGASCAR
5 LA VISA LOCA
6 UNLEASHED

sm city batangas
1 MADAGASCAR
2 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
3 STARWARS: EPISODE III
4 GUESS WHO

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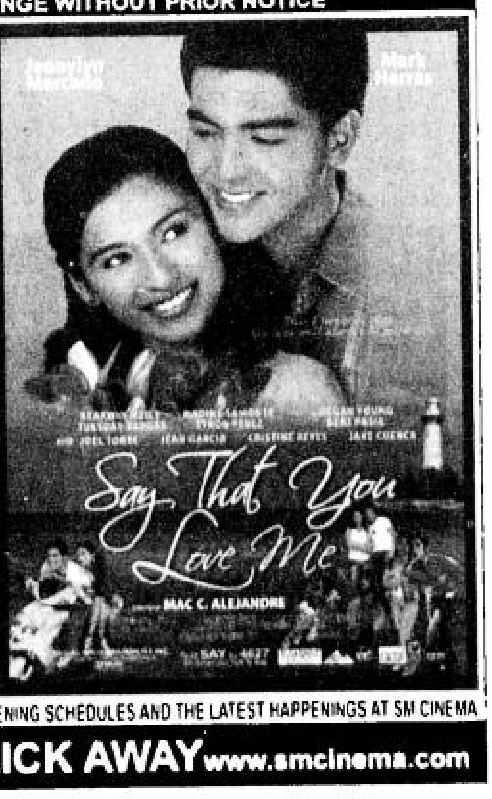

Say That You Love Me
MAC C. ALEJANDRE

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## GALLERIA 632-9115/16

1 STAR WARS Episode III • THX
12:40 3:40 6:40 9:40

2 SIN CITY
11:50 2:20 4 50 7:20 9:50

3 COACH CARTER
10 40 1:30 4 20 7:10 10:00

4 A LOT LIKE LOVE
12:20 2:45 5:10 7:35 10:00

5 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
12:20 2:45 5:10 7:35 10:00

6 MADAGASCAR
11:10 1:20 3 30 5:40 7:50 10:00

7 HOUSE OF WAX
12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00

8 LA VISA LOCA
12:20 2:45 5 10 7:35 10:00

9 UNLEASHED
12:05 2:35 5:05 7:35 10:00

10 SHUTTER
12:00 2:00 4:00 6:00 8:00 10:00

## ERMITA 636-7809 to 124

1 SAY THAT LOVE ME
10 30 12:45 3:00 5:15 7:30 9:45

2 HOUSE OF WAX
10:30 12:45 3:00 5:15 7:30 9:50

3 STAR WARS Episode III
10:30 1:25 4:20 7.10 10:00

4 UNLEASHED
10:30 12:45 3:00 5:15 7:30 9:45

5 MADAGASCAR
11:00 1:10 3:20 5:30 7:40 9:50

6 A LOT LIKE LOVE
10:20 12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00

7 SIN CITY
10:20 12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00

## METRO EAST 682-8193 / 682-8196

1 SHUTTER
10:50 12:50 2:50 4:50 6:50 9:00

2 MADAGASCAR
10:50 12:50 2:50 4:50 6:50 9:00

3 LA VISA LOCA
11:10 1:40 4:10 6:40 9:10

4 UNLEASHED
11:10 1:40 4:10 6:40 9:10

5 SIN CITY
11:30 2:15 5:00 7:45 10:30

6 A LOT LIKE LOVE
11:50 2:30 5:10 7:50 10:30

7 STAR WARS Episode III
11:00 1:45 4:30 7:15 10:00

8 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
10:20 12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00

## NOVALICHES 935-3229/31

1 STAR WARS Episode III
11:20 2:20 5:20 8:25

2 SIN CITY
10:20 12:50 3:20 5:50 8:25

3 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
11:50 2:10 4 30 6:40 9.00

4 UNLEASHED
1:20 3:40 6:00 8:25

5 COACH CARTER
10:30 1:00 3:30 6:00 8:30

6 RESERVE

7 A LOT LIKE LOVE
11:00 1:20 3:40 6:10 8:30

8 RESERVE

## PIONEER 687-5378

1 SIN CITY
2 MADAGASCAR
3 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
4 A LOT LIKE LOVE

## CITISQUARE MALABON 288-2575

1 HOUSE OF WAX
2 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
3 STAR WARS Episode III
4 SIN CITY

## CAINTA 240-4681

1 STAR WARS Episode III
2 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
3 A LOT LIKE LOVE
4 MADAGASCAR

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## STA ROSA (049) 837-0907

1 STAR WARS Episode III
2 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
3 MADAGASCAR
4 LA VISA LOCA
5 HOUSE OF WAX

## LIPA (043) 757-3864 (043) 312-5870

1 STAR WARS Episode III
2 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
3 LA VISA LOCA
4 GUESS WHO?
5 MILLION DOLLAR BABY

## DASMARIÑAS (046) 852-2125 (046) 416-4332

1 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
2 HOUSE OF WAX
3 LA VISA LOCA
4 MADAGASCAR
5 A LOT LIKE LOVE

## ANGELES (045) 892-2348

1 MADAGASCAR
2 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
3 LA VISA LOCA
4 STAR WARS Episode III

## IMUS (046) 875-3838 (046) 471-8189

1 STAR WARS Episode III
2 A LOT LIKE LOVE
3 LA VISA LOCA
4 MADAGASCAR
5 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
6 UNLEASHED

## STARMILLS (045) 975-1927 (045) 961-5279

1 THE JACKET
2 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
3 THE AMITYVILLE HORROR
4 LA VISA LOCA
5 STAR WARS Episode III
6 MADAGASCAR

## BACOLOD (034) 441-0458 (034) 441-0450

1 STAR WARS Episode III
2 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
3 MADAGASCAR
4 RING OF THE NIBELUNGS
5 ONG BAK
6 LA VISA LOCA

## ILOILO (033) 336-8070

1 STAR WARS Episode III
2 MADAGASCAR
3 THE AMITYVILLE HORROR
4 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME
5 IN GOOD COMPANY
6 RING OF THE NIBELUNGS

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|---|---|---|
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AYALA CINEMAS THX

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| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| G1 GLORIETTA 1 | 1 UNLEASHED | 2 SIN CITY | 3 MADAGASCAR | 4 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME | |
| G4 GLORIETTA 4 | 1 STAR WARS EP. 3 | 2 THE SHUTTER | 3 THX SIN CITY<br>1:10, 3 40, 6 10, 8 40, 11 10<br>GUARANTEED SEATS | | |
| | 4 COACH CARTER | 5 HOUSE OF WAX | 6 MADAGASCAR | 7 A LOT LIKE LOVE | |
| GB1 GREENBELT 1 | 1 FRENCH SPRING FILM FESTIVAL | 2 A LOT LIKE LOVE<br>12:30, 2.50, 5:10, 7.30, 9.50 | | | |
| GB3 GREENBELT 3 | 1 THX SIN CITY<br>2 00, 4 30, 7 00, 9 30, 12.00<br>GUARANTEED SEATS | 2 THX MADAGASCAR<br>1 30, 3 30, 5.30, 7 30, 9 30, 11 30<br>GUARANTEED SEATS | | | |
| | 3 COACH CARTER<br>12 30, 3 15, 6 00, 8 45, 11 30<br>GUARANTEED SEATS | 4 A LOT LIKE LOVE<br>2 05, 4 25, 6 45, 9 05, 11 25<br>GUARANTEED SEATS | 5 STAR WARS EP. 3<br>12 25, 3 10, 5 55, 8 40, 11 25<br>GUARANTEED SEATS | | |
| ATC ALABANG TOWN CENTER | 1 THX MADAGASCAR | 2 STAR WARS EP. 3 | | | |
| | 3 A LOT LIKE LOVE | 4 COACH CARTER | 5 SIN CITY | | |
| ACC AYALA CENTER CEBU | 1 SIN CITY | 2 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME | 3 MADAGASCAR | 4 STAR WARS EP. 3 | |

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— Jim Svejda, KNX / CBS RADIO

ashton kutcher
amanda peet
a lot like Love

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JUNE 15

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AT AYALA CINEMAS ON JUNE 15

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Ayala Center Cebu - (032) 231 5342 loc 324

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① Houese of Wax
② Say That You Love Me
③ Star Wars Episode III
④ Shutter

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⑤ Madagascar
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⑦ Sin City

# EVENTS! EVENTS!

MARKET! MARKET! The fun is in the finds

Faith Cuneta
**Album Promo Tour**
June 3, 2005, Friday
5 pm, Activity Center

Event schedule is subject to change without prior notice
Customer service hotline: 886-7519

# Auditions for play on Pope John Paul II tomorrow

AT 9 a.m. tomorrow, June 5 at the Office on Women, CBCP Compound, Intramuros, auditions will be held for a wide range of roles in the new stage play, "'Be Not Afraid'-John Paul II," on the inspiring life and pontificate of the late pope.

## MONTAGE

The Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines presentation is written and directed by Nestor U. Torre, whose other religious productions, "Magnificat," "Nasaan si Hesus?" and "Padre Pio" have been acclaimed and performed all over the country.

"Be Not Afraid" topbills Boots Anson Roa, Tommy Abuel and Joy Soler de Castro, but many significant roles are open to auditioning actors and actresses of all ages.

The English-language play will go on a performance tour starting this August. Call 527-1925, 527-8031, 780-9210 or 0919 206-5424 for details.

**SAN DIEGO.** Popular VJ and image model.

### Mark and Canon

Canon, the renowned imaging products manufacturer, has found the perfect poster boy in top male model and video jock, Mark San Diego. The Seattle-born Fil-Norwegian began his on-cam career as a VJ on Myx, Studio 23's music channel.

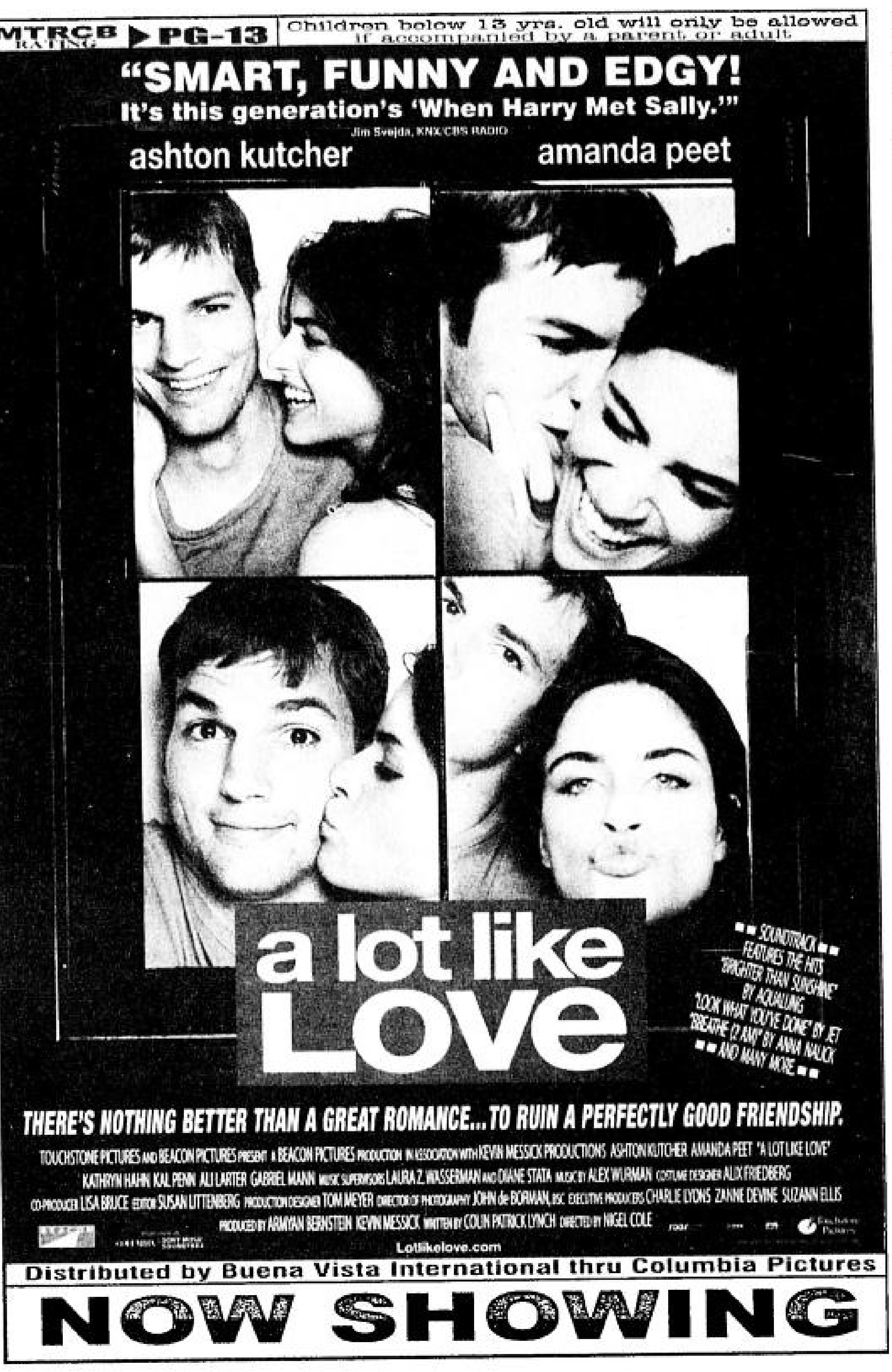
Mark sings praises for the Digital IXUS 700, the latest from Canon's coveted Digital IXUS line. The first 7.1-megapixel designer-class camera features the latest technological innovations—DIGIC II, Canon's proprietary imaging processor, and the powerful UA lens technology, for superior image quality. In addition, its Jump Function lets you browse and search through images quickly, and it can do on-camera editing of photos.

### Hallmark celebrates heroism

This month, the Hallmark Channel screens films that honor the men and women who are everyday heroes to their families and communities. On June 5 at 9 p.m., "Almost Salinas" shows how a man's life can take an unexpected turn. John Mahoney enjoys a peaceful existence until a movie

AUDITIONS/ A2-8

**AZARIA AND LEMMON.** Topbill film adaptation of Mitch Albom's popular novel, "Tuesdays with Morrie."


MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13
Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult
"SMART, FUNNY AND EDGY! It's this generation's 'When Harry Met Sally.'"
Jim Svejda, KNX/CBS RADIO
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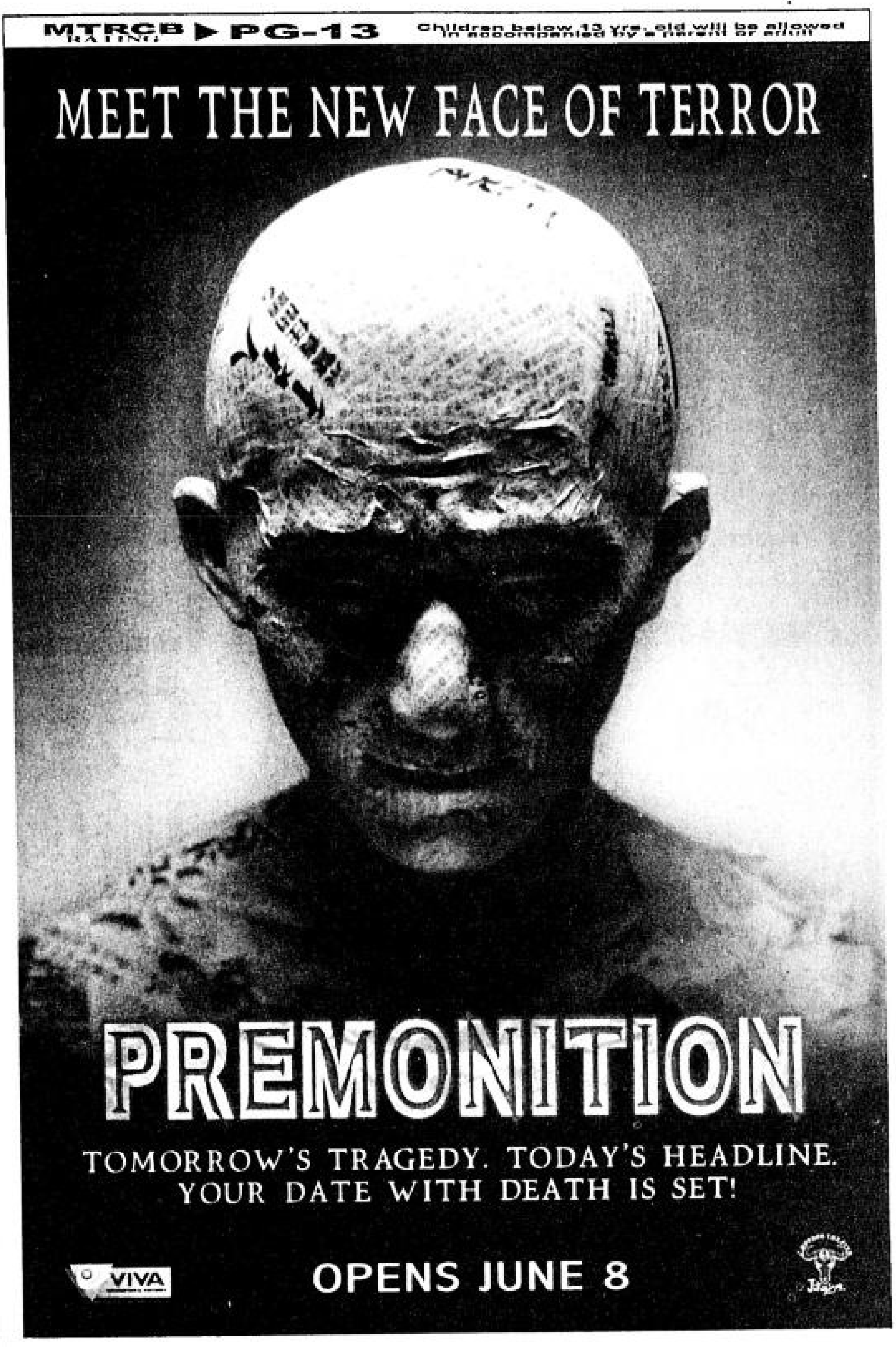
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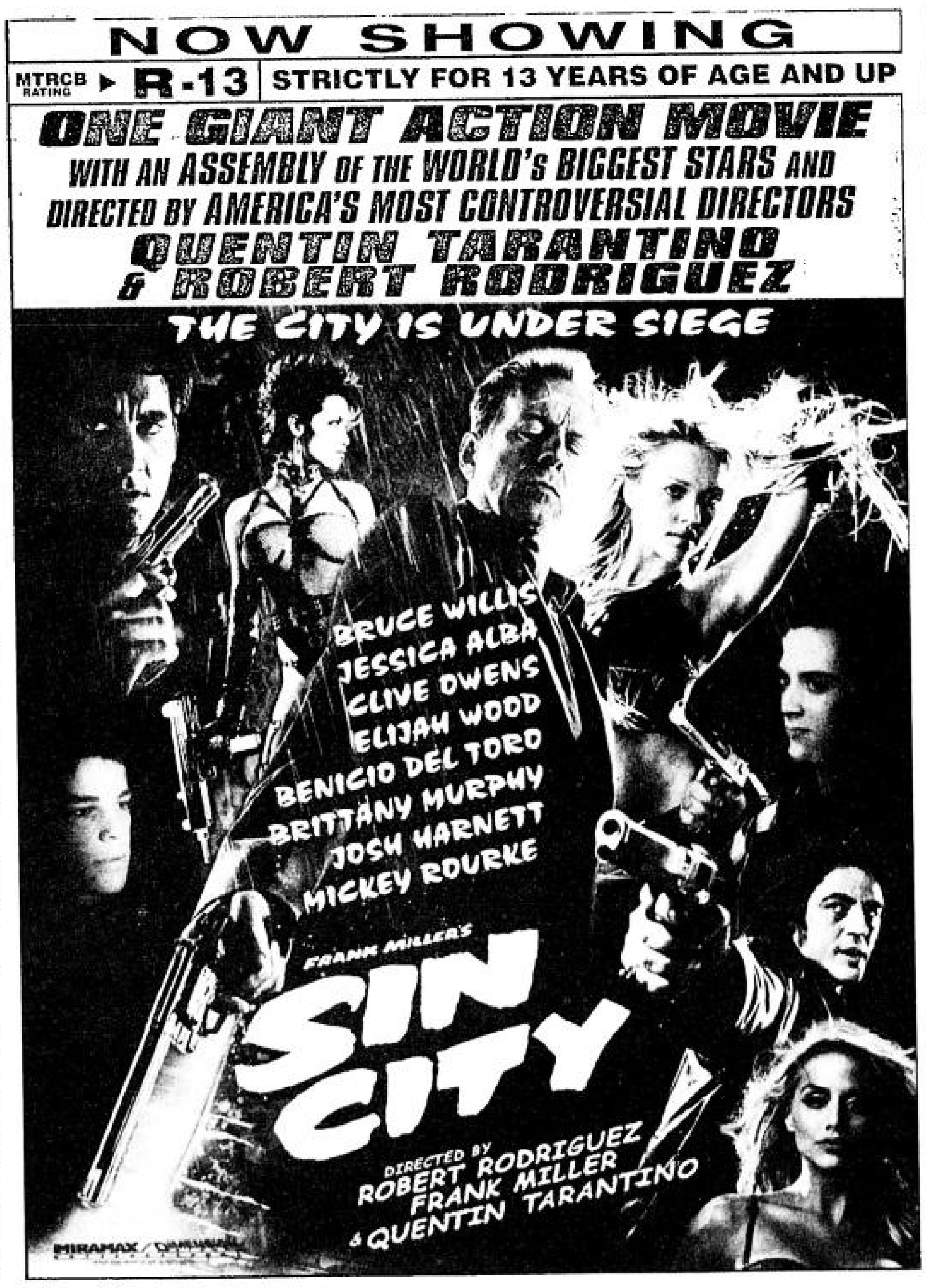
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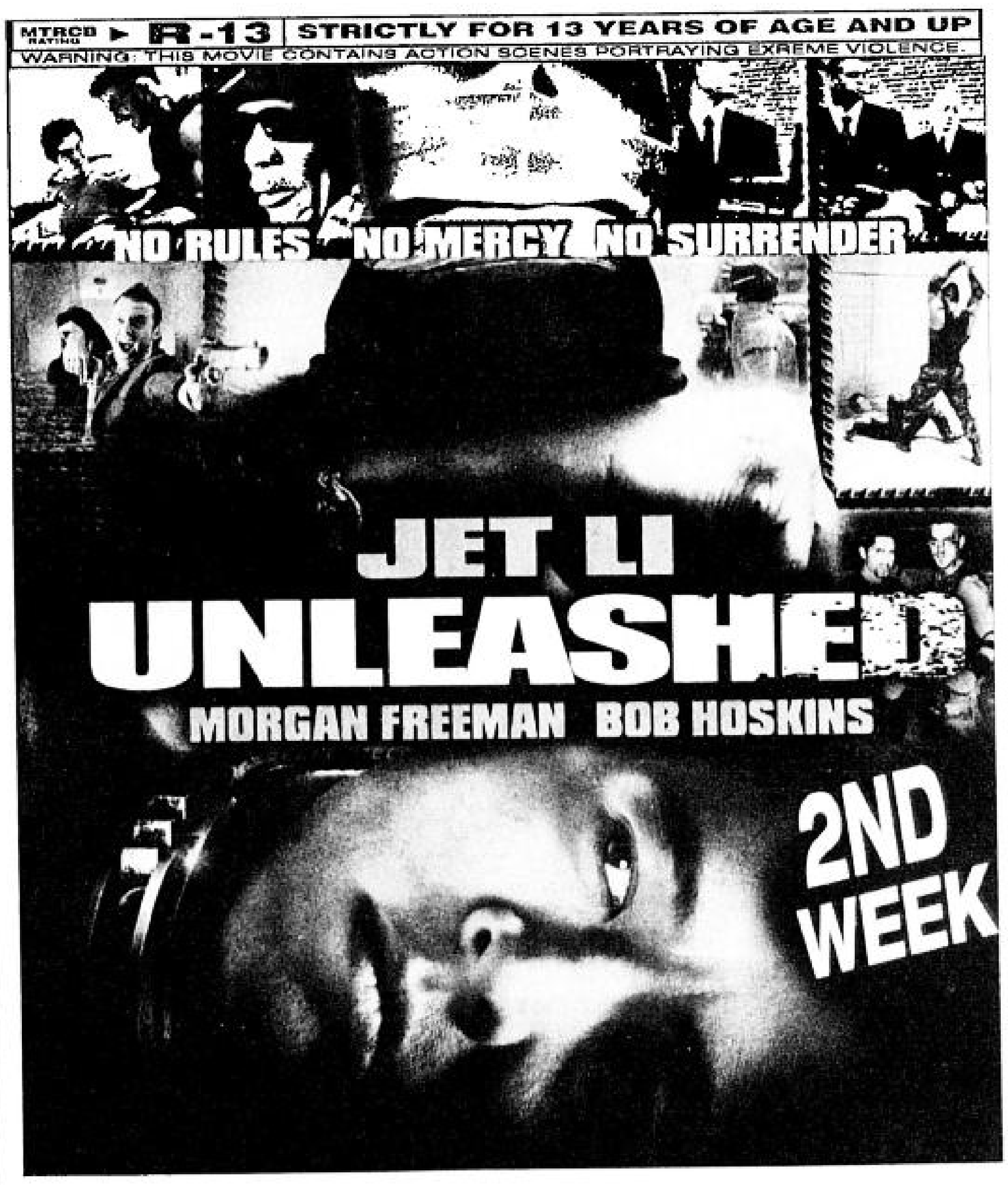
FRANK MILLER'S SIN CITY
DIRECTED BY ROBERT RODRIGUEZ FRANK MILLER & QUENTIN TARANTINO
MIRAMAX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STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS OF AGE AND UP
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JET LI
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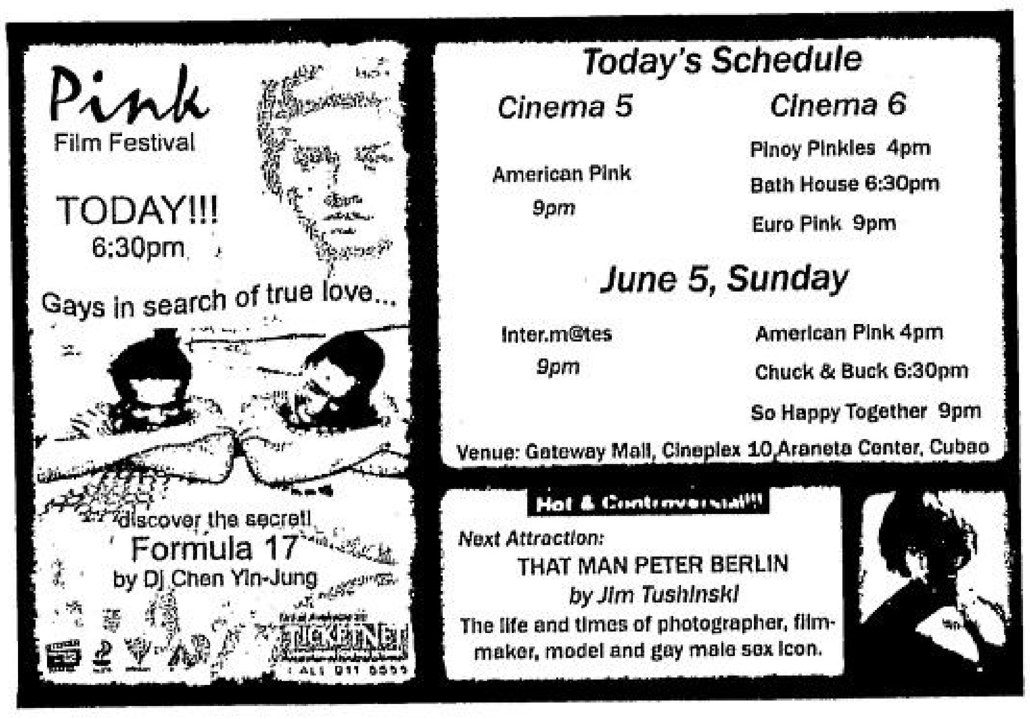
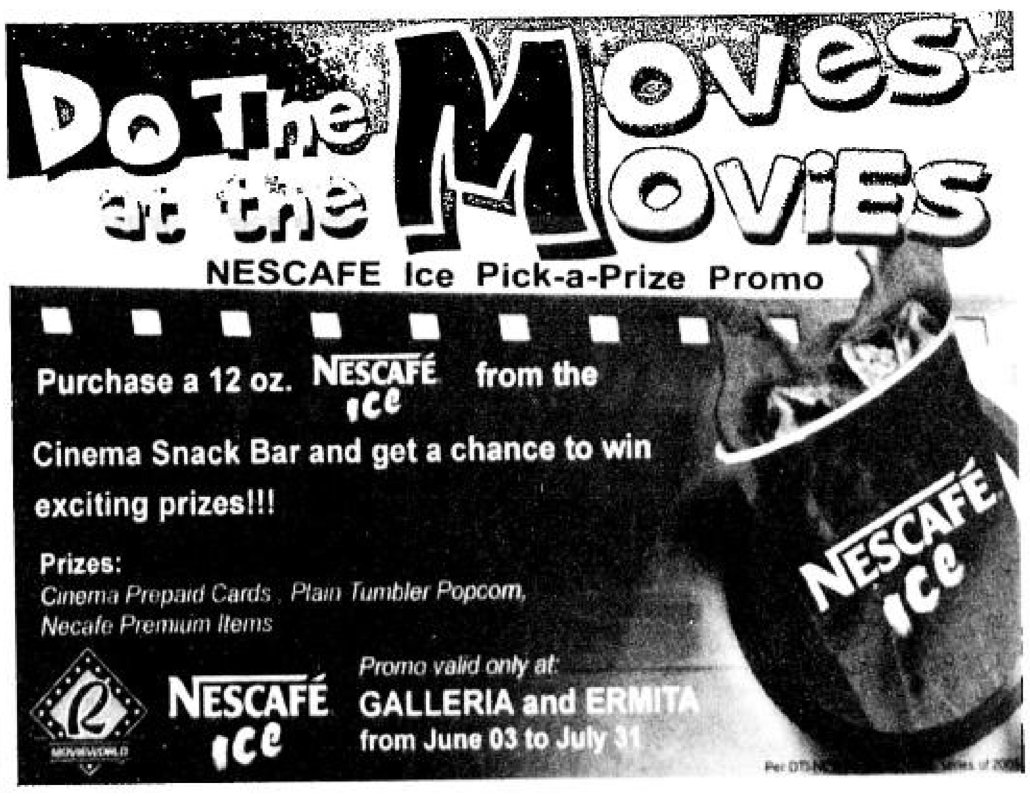
MORGAN FREEMAN BOB HOSKINS
2ND WEEK


Pink Film Festival
TODAY!!!
6:30pm
Gays in search of true love...
discover the secret!
Formula 17
by DJ Chen Yin-Jung
TICKETNET
Today's Schedule
Cinema 5
American Pink 9pm
Cinema 6
Pinoy Pinkles 4pm
Bath House 6:30pm
Euro Pink 9pm
June 5, Sunday
Inter.m@tes 9pm
American Pink 4pm
Chuck & Buck 6:30pm
So Happy Together 9pm
Venue: Gateway Mall, Cineplex 10 Araneta Center, Cubao
Hot & Controversial!!!
Next Attraction:
THAT MAN PETER BERLIN
by Jim Tushinski
The life and times of photographer, filmmaker, model and gay male sex icon.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Purchase a 12 oz. NESCAFÉ ice from the Cinema Snack Bar and get a chance to win exciting prizes!!!
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NESCAFÉ ice
Promo valid only at: GALLERIA and ERMITA from June 03 to July 31

# Exotic film locales add authenticity and mystery

## SHOW BIZ Q & A

*Rito P. Asilo*

*FROM Louis Tan:* **"I enjoyed your feature on exotic locales in films. More please."**

Glad to oblige, Louis. The choice of locales in the movies adds authenticity, glamour and mystery to the finished product.

In Andrew Douglas' remake of "The Amityville Horror," set in Long Island, New York, the "haunted" house was constructed in Wisconsin. They weren't brave enough to shoot where the grisly murders actually took place!

### Thriller

In John Maybury's recently shown thriller, "The Jacket," set in snowy Vermont, Adrien Brody's hitchhiking scenes were shot in Montreal, Canada, but the hospital scenes were filmed across the Atlantic—in Bangour Village Hospital in Scotland!

After his embarrassing film debut in Andrew Van Slee's "Totally Blonde" (2001), Michael Bublé takes another shot at acting in Charles Martin Smith's "Snow Walker," starring Barry Pepper, about a plane that crashes in the harsh Arctic tundra, where rescue is close to impossible. It was filmed in Manitoba, Canada. (On the set, guards armed with tranquilizer guns were hired to protect the cast and crew from polar bears, one of which interrupted the filming when it charged the set during a -45 °C wind chill!)

Exterior shots for Robert Wise's "The Sound of Music" (1965) were filmed in Mondsee and Salzburg in Austria, while the opening scene, where Julie Andrews' Maria sings the title song on a hill, was filmed in Bavaria, Germany.

### First take

The scene where Liesl (Charmian Carr) and Rolfe (Daniel Truhitte) sing "16 Going On 17" was shot at the 20th Century Fox studios in Los Angeles. (During the first take, Carr slipped while leaping across a bench, and fell through a pane of glass. Ouch!)

Richard Donner's "Superman," starring Christopher Reeve, used the New York City Daily News building on 42nd street in Manhattan as the headquarters of The Daily Planet.

In Bille August's haunting "Smilla's Sense of Snow," Julia Ormond filmed her scenes in mysterious, snow-covered Greenland, while interiors were shot in Copenhagen, Denmark.

In the Philippine-China co-production, Eddie Romero, Lili Chou and Lang Xiao's "Hari sa Hari, Lahi sa Lahi" (*aka* "King and Emperor," 1987), the cast, which included Dan Alvaro, Tanya Gomez, Rosemarie Sonora, Vic Vargas and NUT, filmed all over China-from Xiamen to Mongolia! The movie premiered at the Toronto filmfest that year.

### Political drama

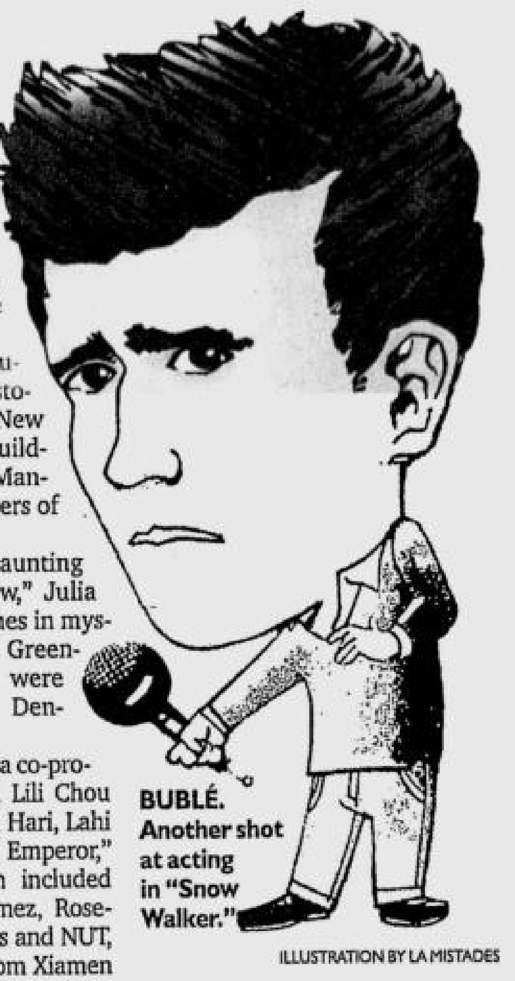
Peter Weir's scathing political drama, "The Year of Living Dangerously" (1982), set in Indonesia, was shot in Manila and Australia. Curiously, much of the non-English dialogue was in Filipino, not Javanese!

In one scene, when Billy (Linda Hunt) visited the home of a dead child in a slum area, the prayer chanted by the old man was, in fact, "Ama Namin"!

Aside from Mel Gibson, Sigourney Weaver and Oscar-winner Hunt, the cast included *Pinoy* actors Bembol Roco, Domingo Landicho, Kuh Ledesma (as Tiger Lily) and director Joel Lamangan—as a security officer!

Aparna Sen's atypical Bollywood film, "Mr. & Mrs. Iyer" (there's no chant-like singing, no 'soggy dramatic scenes), is a road movie that brilliantly tackles religious prejudice, caste wars and love in the midst of social strife. In the film, the long bus ride to Calcutta showed off the lyrical beauty of the Indian countryside.

Kevin MacDonald's must-see Bafta winner, "Touching The Void," the searing docu-drama about two mountaineers who sought to reach the peak of Peru's Siula Grande, was partly shot in Siula Grande, in Chamonix, France and in Grindelwald, Switzerland.



**BUBLÉ. Another shot at acting in "Snow Walker."**

ILLUSTRATION BY LA MISTADES

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DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| COACH CARTER<br>PG13<br>11:40,2:10,4:50,7:30,10:10 | MADAGASCAR<br>GP<br>11:30,1:30,3:30,5:30,7:30,9:30 | STAR WARS: EPISODE III<br>GP<br>12:55,4:00,7:00,10:00 |
| SIN CITY<br>R13<br>12:30,3:00,5:30,8:00,10:30 | MADAGASCAR<br>GP<br>12:00,2:00,4:00<br>SHUTTER<br>R13<br>1:05,3:15,5:25,7:35,9:50 | A LOT LIKE LOVE<br>PG13<br>1:10,3:30,5:50,8:10,10:30 |

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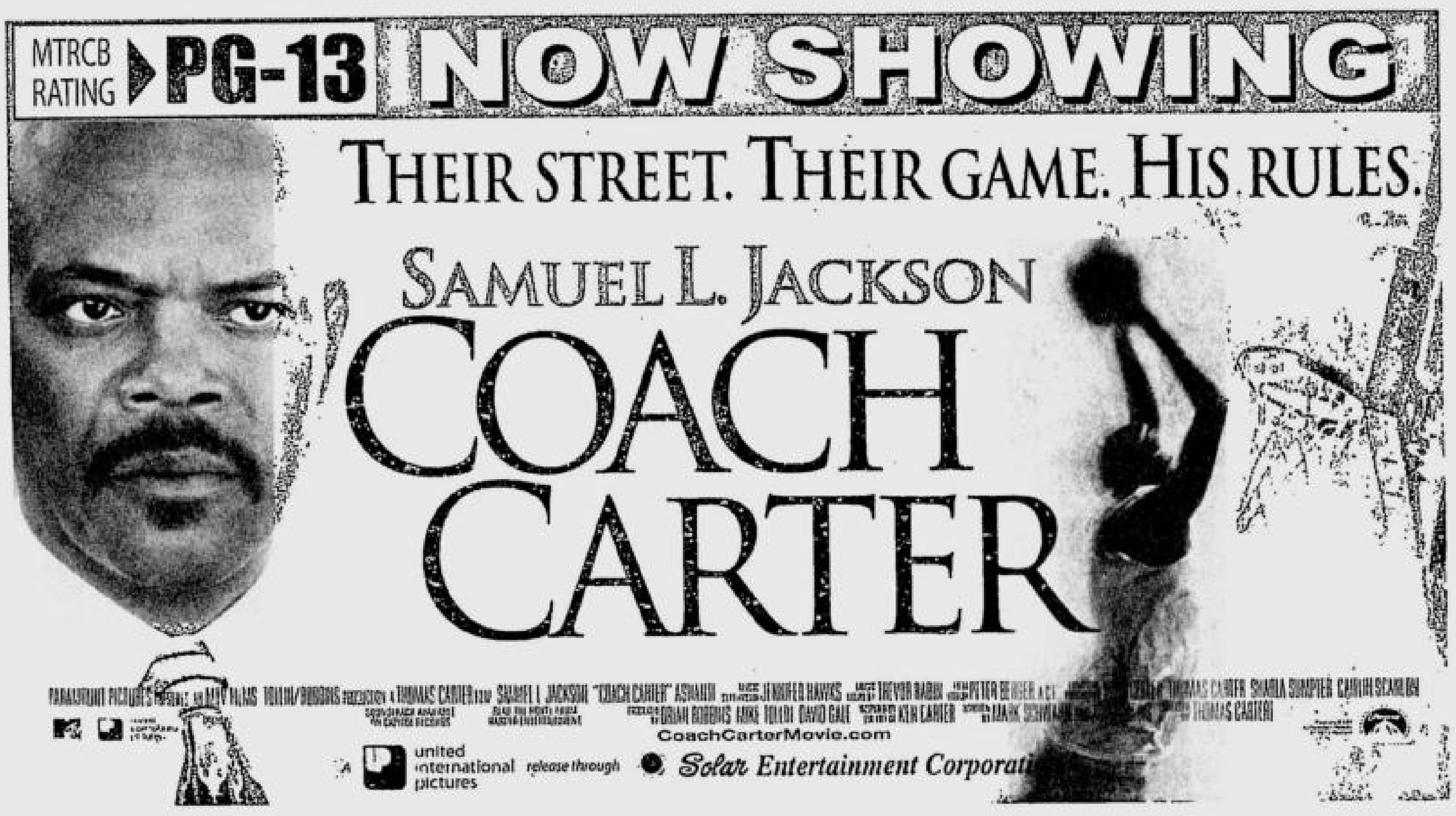
|---|---|---|
| 3 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME | 1 UNLEASHED | 1 SHAOLIN vs EVIL DEAD |
| 4 SIN CITY | 2 SHUTTER | 2 Rental Reservation |
| 5 UNLEASHED | 3 Under Renovation | Buy 3 Movie Tickets And Win Jollibee Products! At Metropolis Alabang and Starmall Edsa |
| Star Model Search Grand Finals June 4 - Saturday Metropolis Star Alabang | 4 Under Renovation | |
| | 5 SIN CITY | |
| | 6 SAY THAT YOU LOVE ME | |

DTI-NCR A2-258, Series 2005
DTI-NCR A3-301, Series 2005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# Auditions . . .

From page A2-7

crew overruns his town while shooting a misguided version of James Dean's story, and a reporter uncovers a dark secret that's been kept hidden for 40 years.

On June 12, "Merci, Docteur Rey" stars Diane Wiest as an American opera diva whose son witnesses a murder and sets out to catch the killer. But, a shocking revelation sends him running to seek the help of Dr. Rey.

On June 19, "Out of the Woods" is about a man who's made a mess of his life. But, he's his mother's only hope to take care of his grandfather (Ed Asner), a hermit living in a backwoods town.

On June 24, "Tuesdays with Morrie" chronicles the last days of a wise, old man (Jack Lemmon), who generously shares the lessons of life he's learned with one of his former students (Hank Azaria).

On June 26, "Gone But Not Forgotten" is a two-part feature about the mysterious disappearance of a woman, a man accused of being a serial killer, and the defense attorney who pursues and upholds the truth at all cost.

### Movies on TV

On HBO, June 4 at 9 p.m., "Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind." 1:25 a.m., "8 Mile."

On Cinemax, June 4 at 2:30 p.m., "Saving Emily." 11:15 p.m., "When Trumpets Fade."

Hurry! Catch
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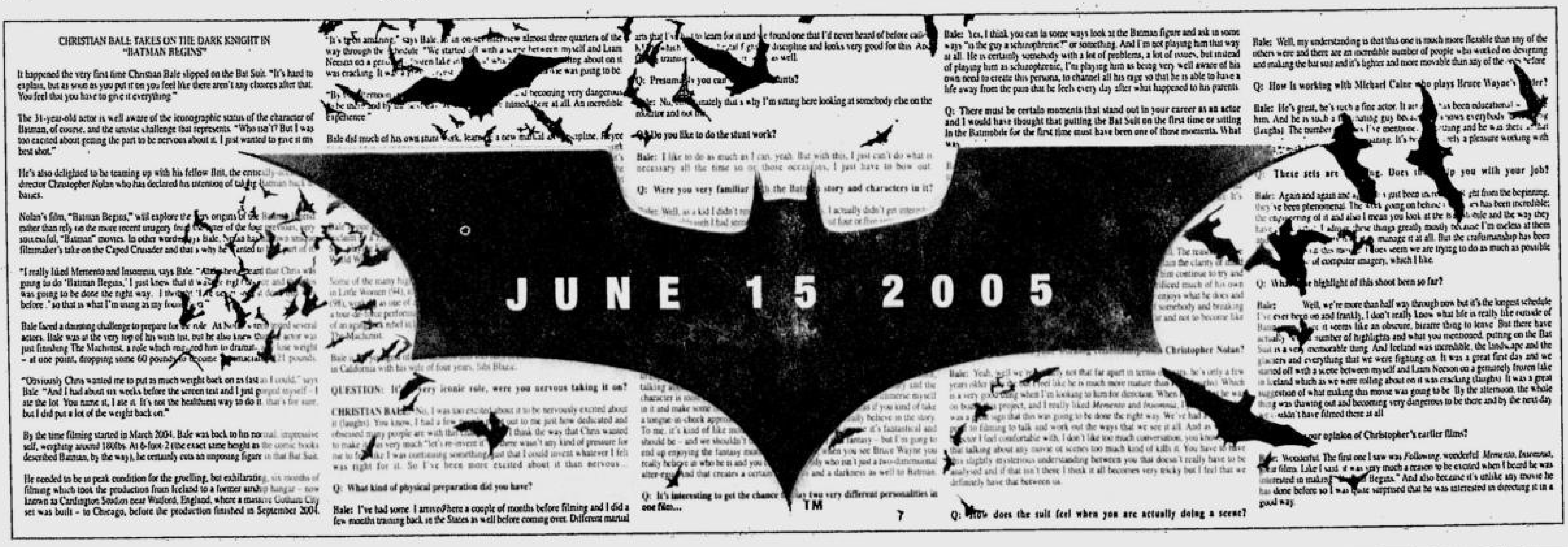
CHRISTIAN BALE TAKES ON THE DARK KNIGHT IN "BATMAN BEGINS"
JUNE 15 2005
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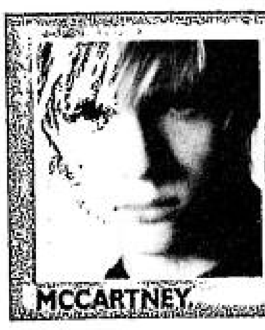
# SATURDAY Special


McCARTNEY

MURRAY

MAGANTO

MORGAN

EVERINGHAM

These promising talents from the movies and the recording scene gear up for the big time

# New faces energize show biz scene

By Nestor U. Torre

BORN to Australian and Laotian parents, Ananda Everingham ascends to stardom in the Thai chiller, "Shutter." He plays a photographer whose photos are used by a ghost to communicate with the world of the living. When he and his girlfriend investigate the mystery, they realize that they may have had a tragic hand in the creepy occurrences.

How so? One night, they fled from an accident scene, leaving behind the lifeless body of a woman. Could it be that the woman's spirit is haunting them and demanding justice through the photographs?

Prior to filming "Shutter," Everingham worked on three TV series and two other movies. "Shutter" is written and directed by Banjong Pisonthanakon and Parkpoon Wangpoom.

## Next level

For his part, Chad Michael Murray became a TV star in "One Tree Hill," and is now taking his career to the next level in the new horror thriller, "House of Wax." He plays Nick, a young man who has the gift to do anything he wants, but has to play second fiddle to his sister (Elisha Cuthbert). In retaliation, he becomes a rebel, starts stealing cars, drinking, etc.

Chad was cast opposite the controversial Paris Hilton, and expected to have a tough time working with her. But, he happily reports that Paris turned out to be the compleat professional, and worked hard to come up with a focused and believable portrayal.

In the field of praise and worship music, a rising star is Reuben Morgan of Hillsong Church, Australia. The well-regarded young singer and songwriter will hold a seminar and concert on June 11 at the Araneta Coliseum.

## Instrumental

Hillsong Church has been instrumental in providing a platform for contemporary praise and worship. Morgan's hits include "Lord, I Give You My Heart," "My Redeemer Lives," "Hosanna," "Hear Our Praises," "I Adore You" and " You Said."

His albums are available at House of Praise stores. The concert is presented by FISH. Call 416-7809.

Meanwhile, 17-year-old crooner Jesse McCartney isn't just another pretty face: He's a boy of many talents— for instance, on the TV soap, "Summerland," he plays troubled surfer Ryan, whose life changes forever after a family tragedy.

In his solo album, "Beautiful Soul," Jesse infuses his smooth pop-rock vocals with soul and some playful dance beats. He's come up with heartfelt love songs with the help of hitmakers Matthew Gerrard, Robbie Nevil, Andrea Carlsson and Desmond Child.

## Co-written songs

Jesse's co-written songs in the album are "She's No You," "That Was Then," "What's Your Name" and the dance groove, "Get Your Shine On."

On the local show biz scene, veteran talent manager Bibsy Carballo, who helped launch the careers of the stellar likes of Dawn Zulueta and Gretchen Barretto, has added promising comers to her stable of talents: Kim Diaz, Migs Castro, Candace Giron, Roanne Mallari and Angel Maganto. Call 721-0801.

Kim's promising acting career was sidelined by marriage and children, but she continues to act onstage and is a commercial endorser. Candace is a news anchor on GMA-7.

Singer Roanne has fronted in mall shows for Luke Mejares, Christian Bautista and Paolo Santos. And Angel hosts the children's TV show, "Chikiting Patrol."

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# Mariah notches 16th No.1 single

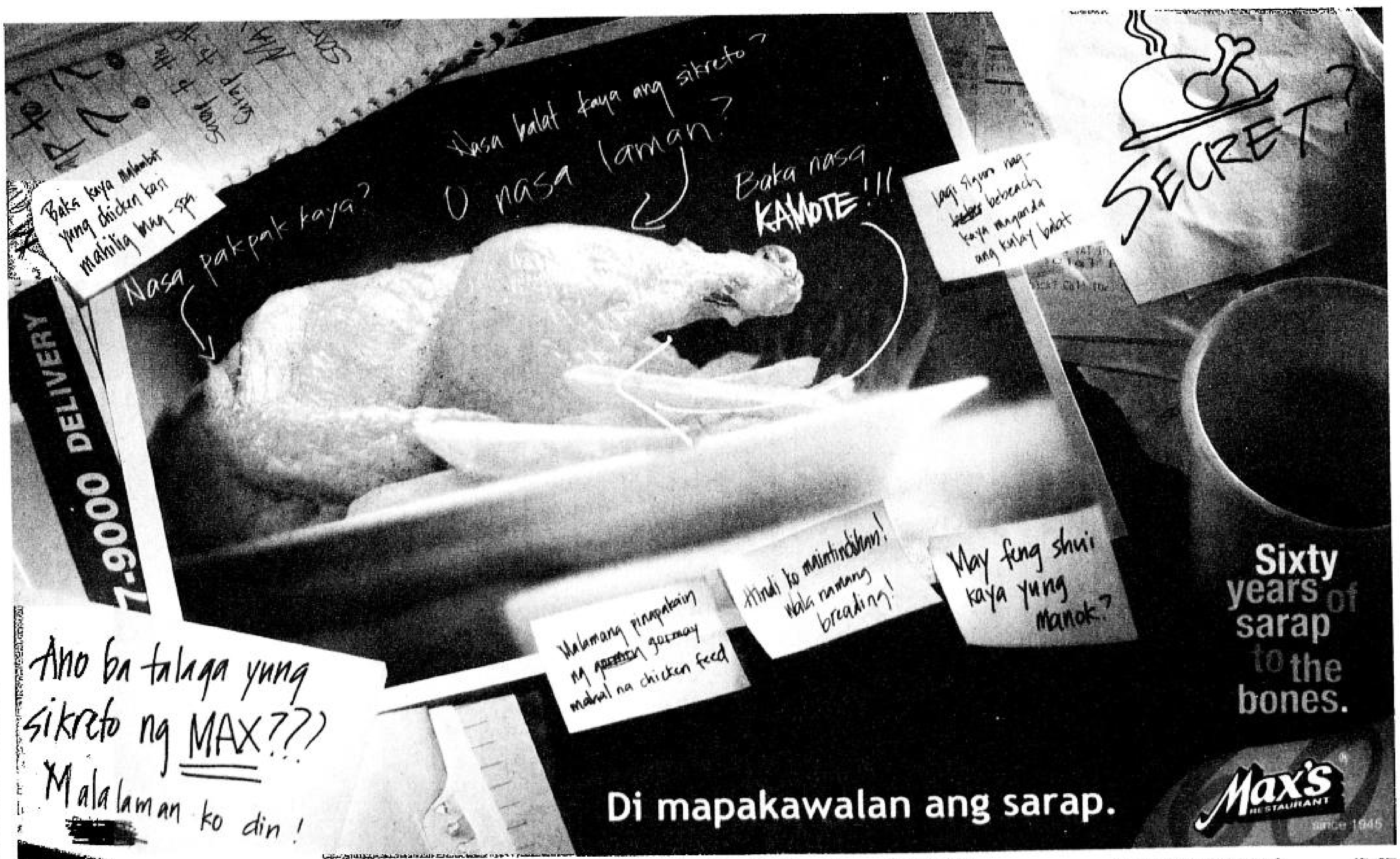
NEW YORK— Mariah Carey notched her 16th No. 1 hit on the Billboard Top 100 singles chart recently with the ballad, "We Belong Together," off the album, "The Emancipation of Mimi," which has sold more than two million copies after less than two months on the charts.

CAREY. Successful comeback.

## High note

It's just the latest high note for Carey, who's been on the comeback trail with "Mimi," her first album since the 2002's "Charmbracelet." That album didn't have blockbuster sales, and came a year after the "Glitter" flop movie and soundtrack, and her breakdown from exhaustion.

"I look at this moment as an incredible blessing. It's part of my struggle," Carey said. "It's made me a stronger person and I really appreciate this!" AP


Baka kaya malambot yung chicken kasi mahilig mag-spa
Nasa pakpak kaya?
Nasa balat kaya ang sikreto?
O nasa laman?
Baka nasa KAMOTE!!!
Lagi siguro nag-beach kaya maganda ang kulay balat
SECRET?
7-9000 DELIVERY
Malamang pinapakain ng gourmay mahal na chicken feed
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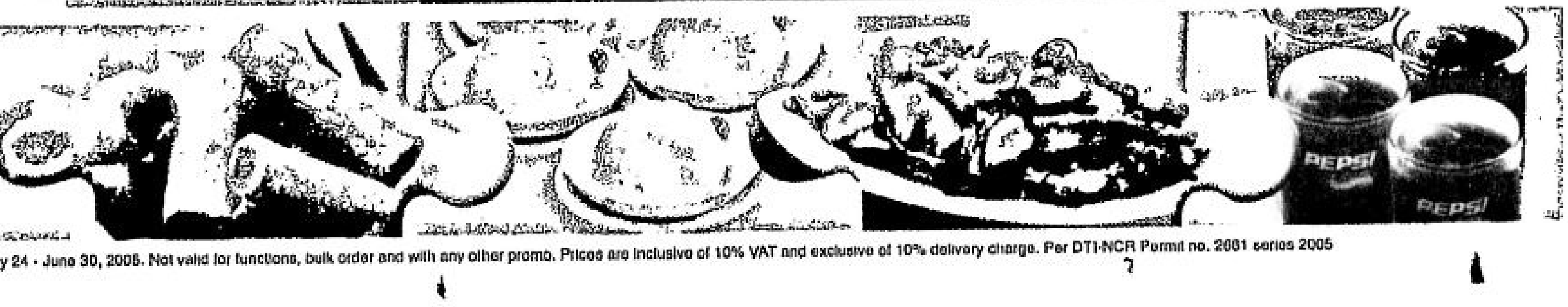


Kumpletuhin ang sarap with Max's Chicken Plus Promo. Add ₱60 to any order of whole fried chicken (except spring) at magsalu-salo na sa mga side dishes na ito!
only ₱60 each!

Promo period May 24 - June 30, 2005. Not valid for functions, bulk order and with any other promo. Prices are inclusive of 10% VAT and exclusive of 10% delivery charge. Per DTI-NCR Permit no. 2081 series 2005

PG 13 NOW ON ITS 2ND WEEK!

**GRADED A** by the Cinema Evaluation Board

"...a well-crafted film well worth watching, precisely because of the happy marriage between intelligence and depth, with commercial sensibilities."
Philip Cu-Unjieng (Philippine Star)

"Mark Meily adapts his Palanca-winning script for the big screen and delivers a winner -- so far, the best local film we've seen this year."
Rito P. Asilo (Philippine Daily Inquirer)

"...there is laughter galore in this film.."
"...not only is it entertaining, it is also intelligent..."

"...Robin Padilla delivers the best performance in his career... From beginning to end, Padilla is very effective -- even brilliant in his scenes."
- Butch Francisco ( Philippine Star )

"La Visa Loca is a should-see production for lovers of Filipino movies that come to bear on local realities..."
- Nestor U. Torre ( Philippine Daily Inquirer )

UNITEL PICTURES
PRESENTS

ROBIN PADILLA JOHNNY DELGADO AND RUFA MAE QUINTO

La Visa Loca

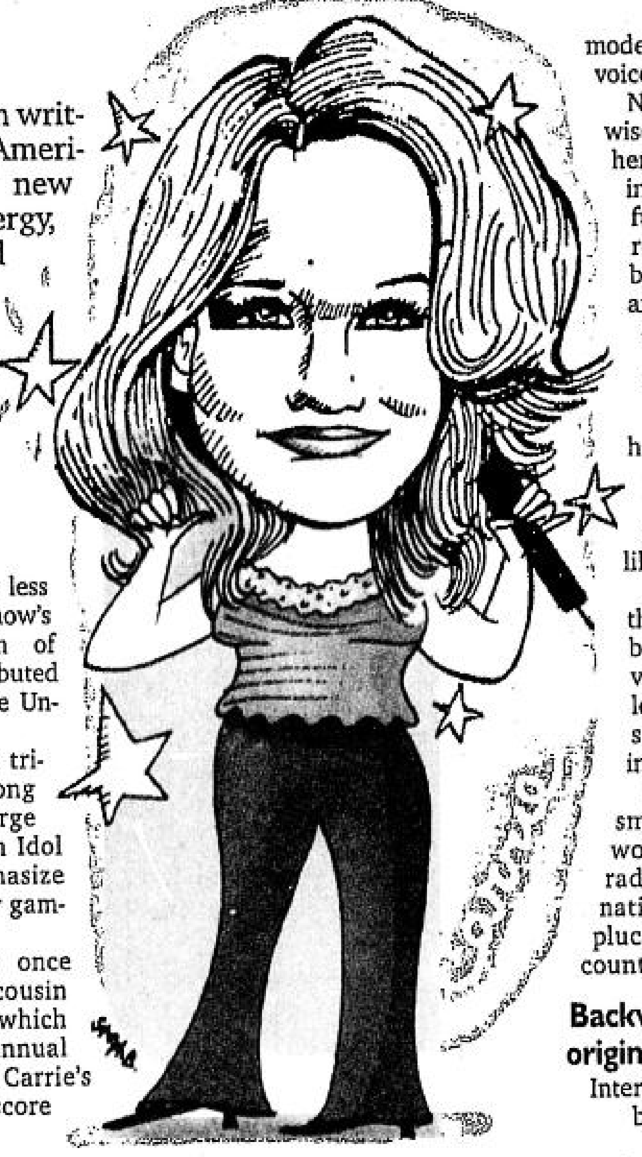
PARA SA MGA NALOLOKANG MAG-AMERIKA

A MARK MEILY FILM
A TONY GLORIA PRODUCTION
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER SHARON CUNETA

# Carrie Underwood is country music's bright new hope

**By Nestor U. Torre**

A LOT has been written about "American Idol's" new rock 'n' roll energy, which was infused into the talent search's recently concluded 2005 edition by finalists Bo Bice and Constantine Maroulis.



UNDERWOOD. Her victory helps underscore the fact that the chintzy "banjos and cornpone" musical format has become more popular than it used to be.

## Infusion

Also noteworthy but less underscored is the show's similarly new infusion of country music, contributed singlehandedly by Carrie Underwood.

The fact that Carrie triumphed over the strong field of finalists to emerge as this year's American Idol serves to further emphasize the acceptability of her gambit.

Country music was once regarded as a *promdi* cousin of mainstream pop, which used to dominate the annual TV talent search. But, Carrie's victory helps underscore the fact that the heretofore chintzy "banjos and cornpone" musical format has become more popular than it used to be.

## Sophisticated audience

That's because it's gone beyond its tinkly instrumentation and platitudinous lyrics of yore, and thus now appeals to a wider and more sophisticated audience. What it hasn't lost is its down-home, earnest and grounded view of life, and the importance of its basic principles, like love, patriotism, virtue, loyalty, responsibility and family.

With Carrie now showing the way, country music, in both its pure and crossover modes, can be expected to become even more popular, as it holds on to its traditional audience while enticing new and younger followers to join its musical fold.

Ironically, to emerge as "AI" champion, Carrie had to prove that she could tackle other musical modes—but her heart (and voice) clearly weren't in them.

Now that she's won, she's wisely decided to go back to her country roots, which she intends to make the musical fulcrum of her singing career. That's a wise move, because it's always good for an artist to do what she does best.

## Sensation

Besides, country music has helped make major stars of the likes of Shania Twain, and it could definitely use a new sensation like Carrie Underwood.

Carrie is exactly right for the country style not only because she has the clear voice and disingenuous looks for it, but also because she has fully lived its ethos in her own life.

She comes from a very small town, loves her hardworking family to bits, and radiates the unique combination of innocence and plucky practicality that makes country artists so appealing.

## Backwater origins

Interestingly enough, Carrie's backwater origins have never detracted from her stellar potential, as perceived early on by "AI" jurors Simon Cowell and Randy Jackson. The veteran record producers instinctively sensed from Carrie's very first audition that she would go the distance in the tilt, and later, in her show biz career.

Jackson confidently predicts that Carrie will turn out to be the biggest star among all of the "AI" winners, and Cowell says she will sell the most albums. With savvy predictions like that going her way, how can Carrie Underwood go wrong?

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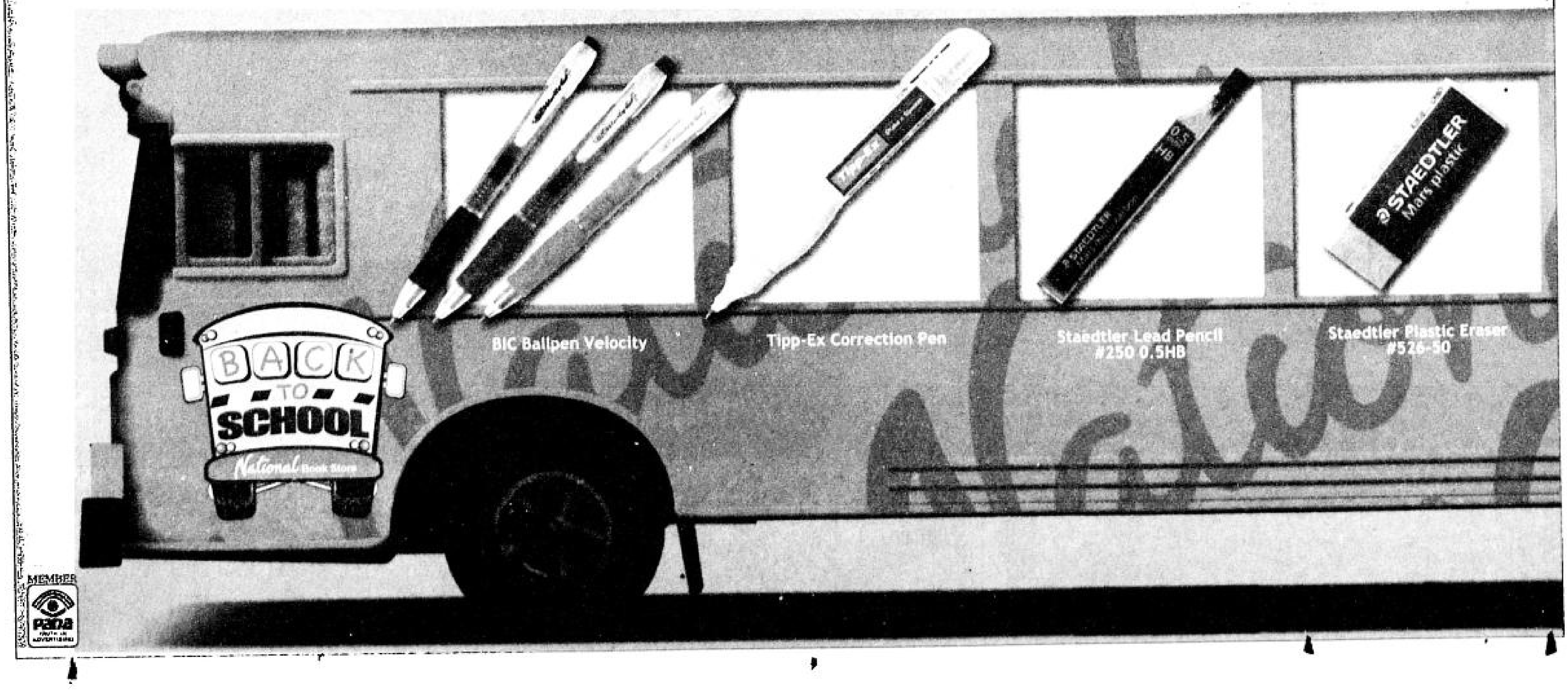

# Miss Universe pageant has evolved

**By Behn Cervantes**

I RECENTLY watched the 2005 Miss Universe contest and counted myself among its one billion viewers. After all these years, how has the Miss Universe tilt evolved?

Armi Kuusela, the first Miss Universe, once stated how surprised she was at how the contest had changed. It once was "a little contest" held in Long Beach, California, primarily because that little city had a naval base with eager sailors who were naturally interested in the bevy of beauties who paraded in bathing suits!

## Logistics

The contest has since gone international, and is now held wherever a host nation is willing to lend manpower and logistics for the prestigious beauty tilt. Both the Philippines and Thailand have hosted the contest twice. South and Central American nations have likewise been eager hosts of this contest that ostensibly aims to effect international understanding. Fine, but it is a *contest*, so those beauties aim to win!

Therefore, as this year's beauties introduced themselves, I noted how studied their ebullience appeared. It was so predictable that it came off almost as a caricature.

I was more aghast at how tacky the National Costumes portion has become. Instead of exhibiting their true national attires, most contestants wore wild interpretations that shortened, cut up or abbreviated the original costumes. They were so overdone and showed so much skin that the contestants came across as ethnic Ziegfeld Follies or Las Vegas chorines!

## Exhibition

The same need to show as much flesh as possible was demonstrated in the Long Gown portion. Again, most gowns bared the contestants' legs, backs or cleavage. I thought that had already been attended to in the Swimsuit portion?

But, I was impressed with the beautiful contestants. How the judges can choose a blonde over a dark-haired South American, Asian or African beauty is beyond me. I was also shocked at how tall the girls were. Most of the semi-finalists were over 5'10"!

I was, however, taken aback by their wide waistlines. Most contestants had flat stomachs since most of them must have gone religiously to a gym prior to the Bangkok contest.

## Whistle-bait figure

However, as someone raised in the '50s, I found their waistlines rather broad. In my era, a whistle-bait figure was described as a Coca Cola body. Now, the shape is rather straight and looks more like Sarsi!

Even in beauty contests, there's a generation gap! As I observed the contestants' silhouettes, I realized: Gone are the days of Mitzi Gaynor, Ava Gardner, Janet Leigh and the 36"-24"-36" "vital statistics"!

**NATALIE GLEBOVA.** Canada's bet is this year's big winner.

# 'Magandang Umaga, Pilipinas' replaces 'MUB'

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*Mandy Navasero*

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## Traffic update

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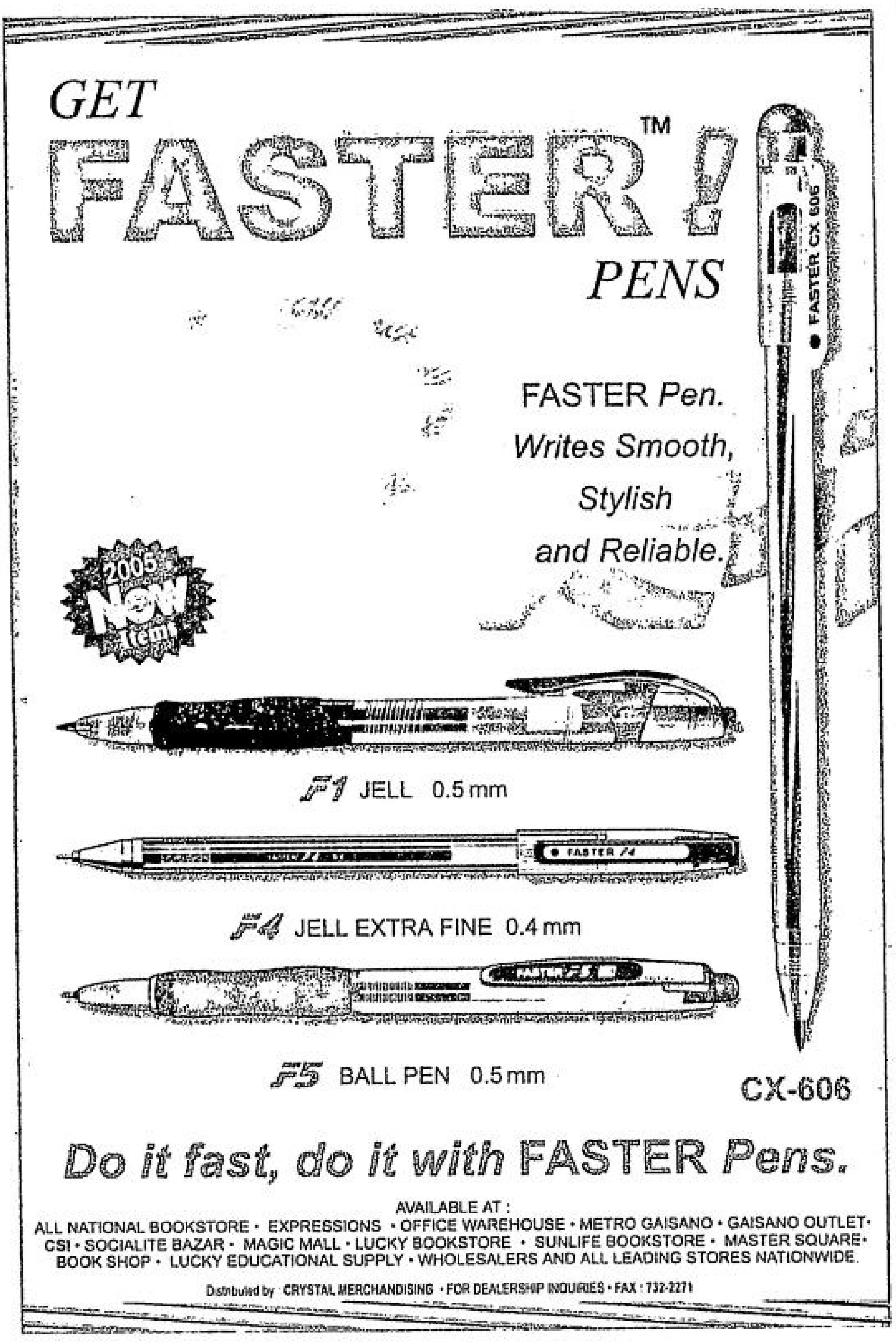
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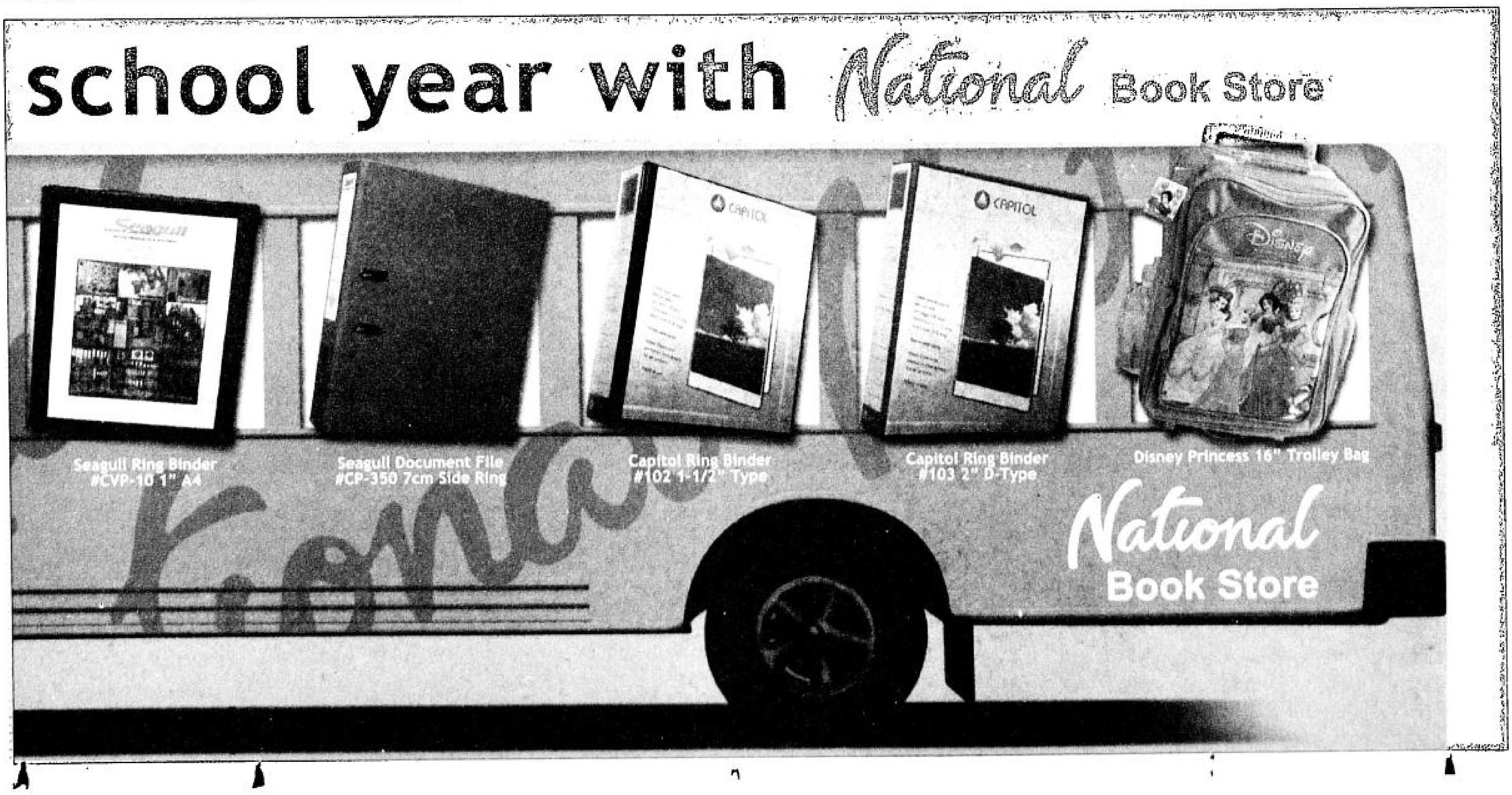
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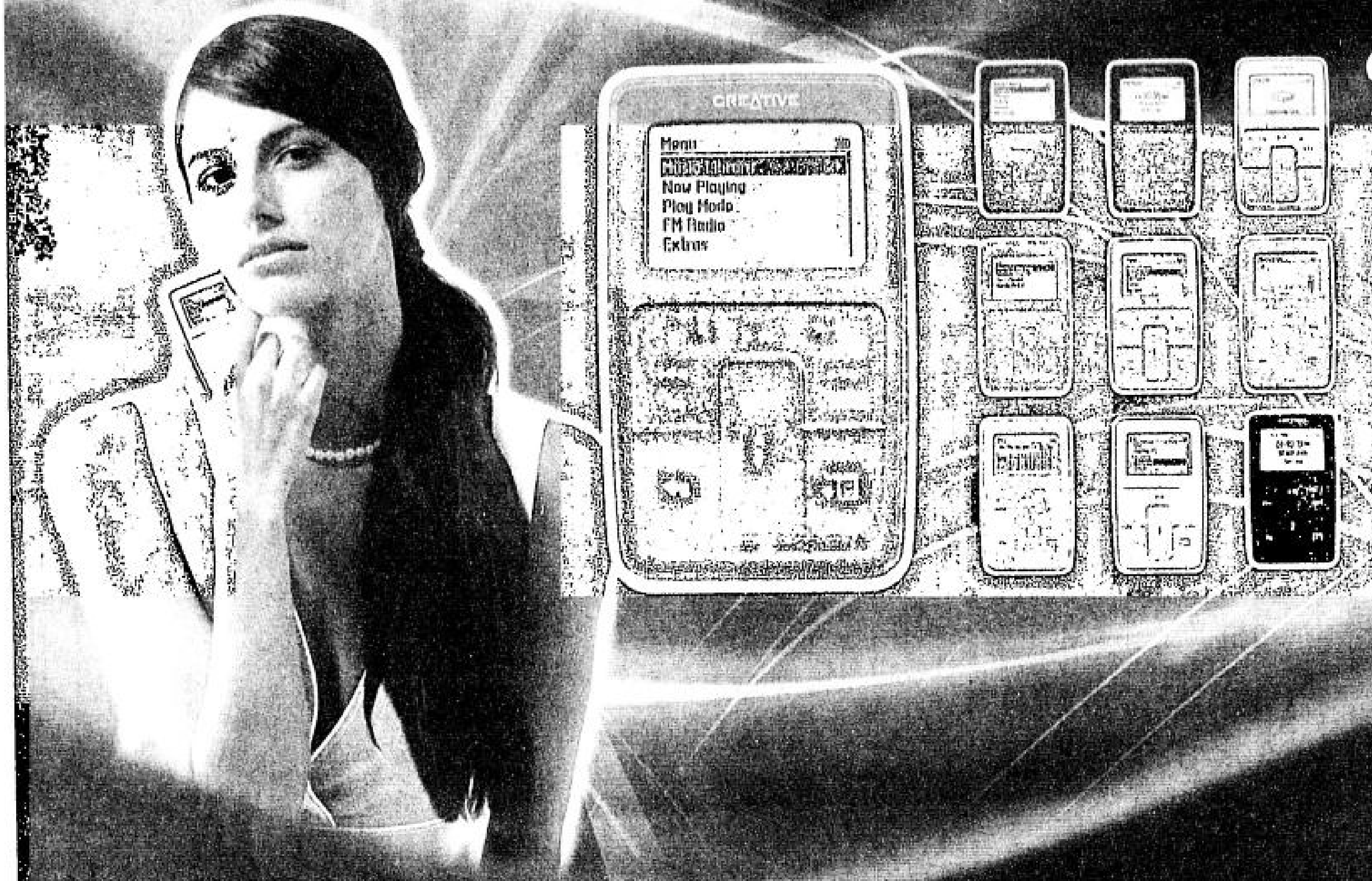

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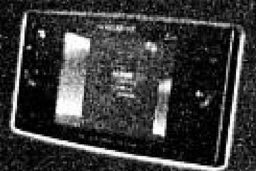

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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

# BUSINESS

B1

**E-mail:** pr_business@inquirer.com.ph
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*Editor* **Raul O. Marcelo**
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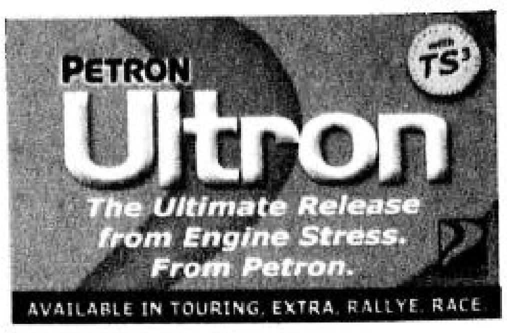
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## WHAT'S INSIDE

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# Morgan Stanley bullish on RP

## *Fiscal reforms to boost infrastructure spending*

By Michelle V. Remo

**INVESTMENT bank Morgan Stanley said the Philippines could expect a substantial rise in investments next year as developments on the fiscal front would help create an environment attractive to businesses.**

"If the pace of reforms continues, we believe that as the fiscal accounts reach normalcy and attract foreign investments, there will be some momentum in investments next year, boosted by the government involvement in social and infrastructural activities," Morgan Stanley said in a paper titled Southeast Asia Investment Issues.

In mentioning reforms, the international bank was referring to the implementation of measures intended to solve the government's burgeoning fiscal problem.

It cited the recent signing of the value-added tax law, the Arroyo administration's main revenue-raising measure. The law, which expanded the coverage of VAT to include electricity and oil, was estimated to generate P28 billion in additional revenues in the remainder of this year, and as much as P105 billion annually starting 2006.

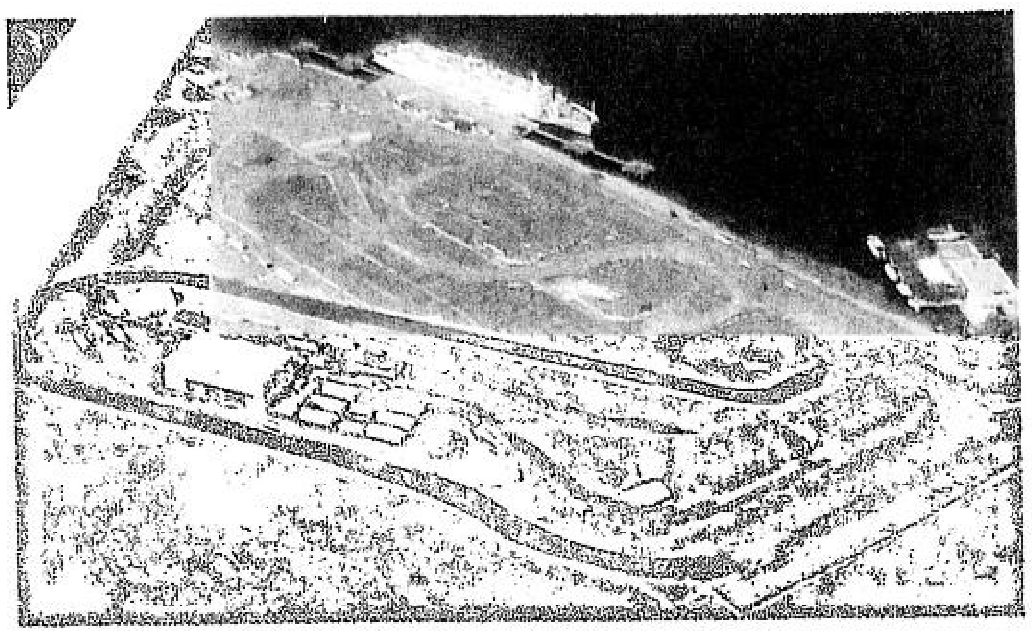
The VAT law also gave a standby authority to the President to raise the VAT rate from 10 to 12 percent next year, and likewise raised the corporate income tax rate from 32 to 35 percent.

However, Morgan Stanley said the government should establish a stricter monitoring of tax compliance of taxpayers to ensure that the estimated potential revenues from the new tax laws would actually be translated into collection.

It said the additional revenues from the tax measure would create room in the government's tight budget for spending on infrastructure. Higher spending on infrastructure would, in turn, entice reluctant investors to finally place their money in the Philippines.

The ratio of investments to the Philippines' gross domestic product (GDP) averaged at 22.7 percent from 1994 to 2004. Morgan Stanley said the figure could be

MORGAN/ B2



**AN AERIAL** view of a portion of Subic Freeport

# Broad powers for SBMA, CDC eyed

A BILL empowering the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA) and the Clark Development Corp. (CDC) to develop special economic zones in Luzon has been filed in the Senate.

According to Sen. Richard Gordon, author of the bill, the legislative proposal was aimed at promoting investments and creating more business opportunities in the areas surrounding Subic and Clark.

A law providing such powers to SBMA and CDC was also necessary so that the country could maximize and complement the potentials of the major pieces of infrastructure in Luzon--the airports in Subic and Clark and the seaports in Subic and Manila.

Under Senate Bill No. 1840, SBMA and the CDC shall have the authority to develop other special economic zones in Luzon, and to manage and operate them. To fulfill such a function, the two agencies shall also be given the power to borrow funds from local and international institutions, or to raise money through bond issues or issuance of other securities.

"The State must be aggressive in taking advantage of the strategic infrastructure in Subic, Clark and Manila as international transportation hubs," Gordon said in the explanatory note of his bill.

BROAD/ B2

## INDICATORS

## CURRENCIES

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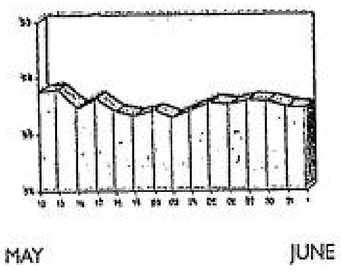

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As of 5 p.m., June 3, 2005

¥ 107.88 = $ 1

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| June 3, 2005<br>Country | Unit | Euro Equivalent | Dollar Equivalent | Peso Equivalent |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| United States | Dollar | 0.814531237 | 1.000000 | 54.6160 |
| Japan | Yen | 0.007526 | 0.009240 | 0.5047 |
| United Kingdom | Pound | 1.479107 | 1.815900 | 99.1772 |
| Hongkong | Dollar | 0.104657 | 0.128487 | 7.0174 |
| Switzerland | Franc | 0.650948 | 0.799169 | 43.6474 |
| Canada | Dollar | 0.652512 | 0.801089 | 43.7523 |
| Singapore | Dollar | 0.486897 | 0.597764 | 32.6475 |
| Australia | Dollar | 0.613768 | 0.753523 | 41.1544 |
| Bahrain | Dinar* | 2.160617 | 2.652590 | 144.8739 |
| Saudi Arabia | Rial | 0.217209 | 0.266667 | 14.5643 |
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| Thailand | Baht | 0.020037 | 0.024600 | 1.3436 |
| UAE | Dirham | 0.22178 | 0.272279 | 14.8708 |
| Euro | Euro | 1 | 1.227700 | 67.0521 |
| ArgentinaPeso | 0.282578 | 0.346921 | 18.9474 | |
| Brazil | REAL | 0.337784 | 0.414697 | 22.6491 |
| Denmark | Kroner | 0.134416 | 0.165022 | 9.0128 |
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| Norway | Kroner | 0.126347 | 0.155116 | 8.4718 |
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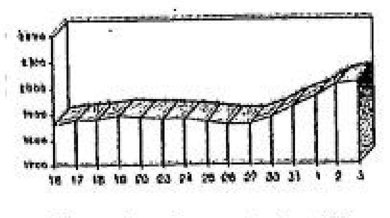
| South Africa | Rand | 0.11974 | 0.147005 | 8.0288 |
| Korea | Won | 0.000804 | 0.000987 | 0.0539 |
| Sweden | Kroner | 0.10953 | 0.134470 | 7.3442 |
| Syria | Pound | 0.015691 | 0.019264 | 1.0521 |
| Taiwan | Nt Dollar | 0.025966 | 0.031878 | 1.7410 |
| Venezuela | Bolivar | 0.00038 | 0.000466 | 0.0255 |

## STOCK MARKET

### Shares end up 0.6% as foreign funds fuel rise

PSE COMPOSITE INDEX



(See stock market report on Page B2)

SHARES finished higher yesterday for the sixth straight session as buying momentum continued, fueled by an inflow of foreign funds, traders said.

The benchmark 30-company Philippine Stock Exchange Index ended up 11.93 points, or 0.6 percent, at 2,022.49, its best close since March 21, when it ended at 2,033.78. The index now has gained 8.8 percent over six consecutive sessions.

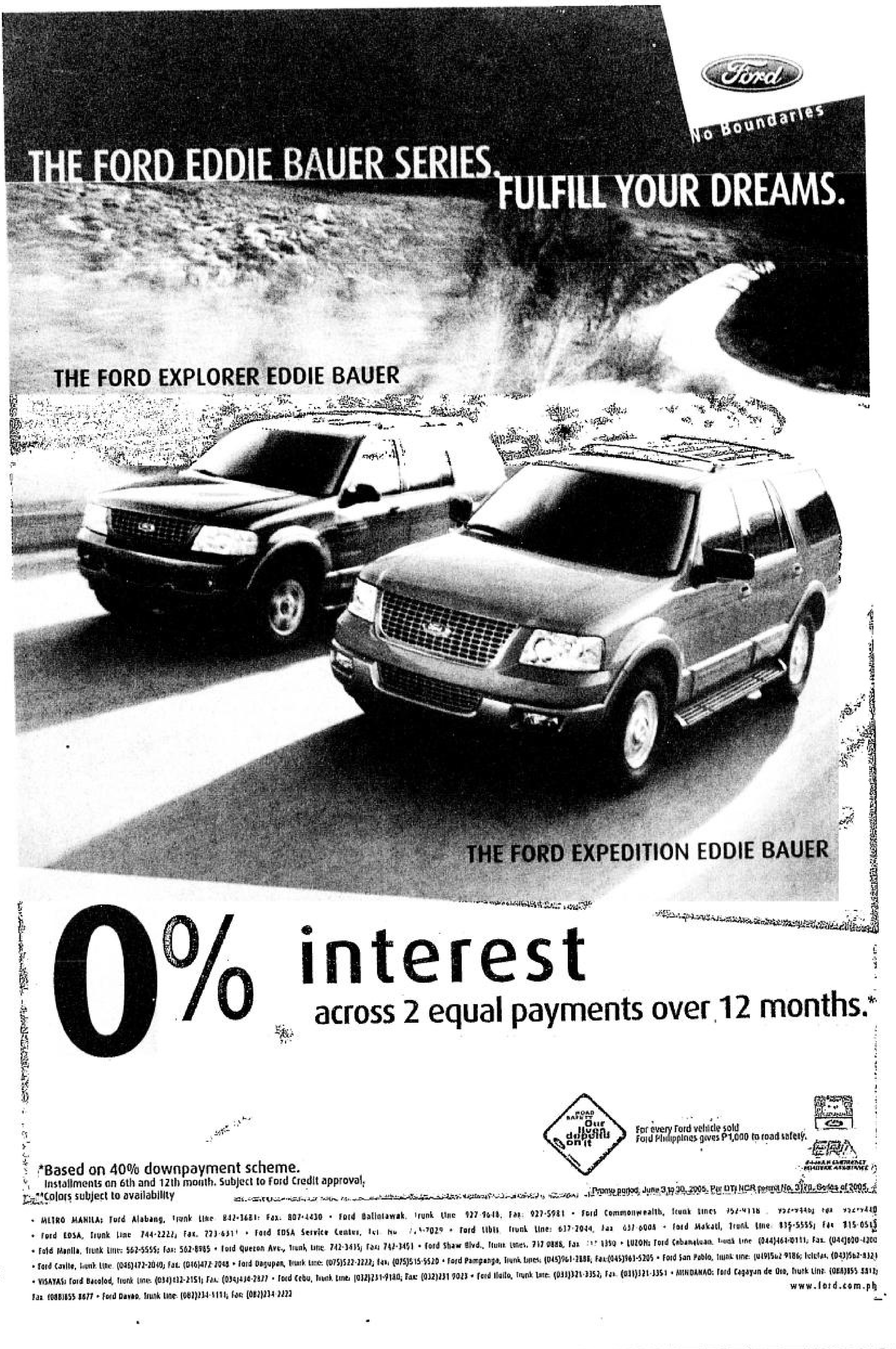
"There's still buying momentum spurred by strong foreign demand," said AB Capital Securities research director Jose Vistan.

Vistan said the change in the par value of Ayala Corp., which took effect Monday, may have helped spur the rally.

"Ayala was transformed from a penny stock into a $7 stock," Vistan said. "That helped open the floodgates of foreign funds rushing into the market."

On Monday, Ayala implemented the reduction in its outstanding shares by swapping one share for every 50 shares held by stockholders. The reverse stock split, which involved adjusting the par value of Ayala shares to P50 a share from P1, reduced the total number of the company's shares to 343 million from 17.1 billion.

On Friday, Ayala ranked among the most active, up 2 percent at P377.50, along with its unit Ayala Land, which rose 4.9 percent to P8.50, and affiliate Globe Telecom, up 2.9 percent to P900. *AP*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# Amatong, 2 others get MB posts

By Christine O. Avendano

AMATONG

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday designated her former finance chief Juanita Amatong and two other government officials to the Monetary Board, the policy making body of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas.

The two other new members of the Monetary Board are Trade Undersecretary Nelly Favis-Villafuerte and Alfredo Antonio, administrator and chief executive officer of the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority, Malacañang said.

The three officials will replace board members Juan Quintos Jr., Melito Salazar Jr. and Antonino Alindogan Jr., whose terms will expire on July 3.

The Palace said the new board members would assume office on July 4, the 12th anniversary of the BSP. They will take their oath along with BSP officer-in-charge Amando Tetangco Jr., who has been appointed BSP governor and chairman of the Monetary Board.

Tetangco will replace Rafael Buenaventura whose term of office also expires on July 3.

Amatong had been a member of the monetary board when she was still the finance secretary.

Malacañang described Amatong as a civil servant, teacher and corporate executive.

Amatong, Palace officials said, would bring to the board her "wealth of experience gained from decades of exposure in the national and global arena."

Amatong was the first woman executive director of the World Bank Group from the Philippines.

According to Malacañang, Villafuerte is a bar topnotcher, writer and teacher. She currently heads the Department of Trade and Industry's regional operations group.

Antonio is a banker, corporate executive and economist. He used to be executive vice president and chief operating officer of Associated Bank, chair of the Philippine Savings Bank and head of the Development Bank of the Philippines.

# NTC drafts rules for telco sector

By Abigail L. Ho

THE NATIONAL Telecommunications Commission is now preparing a "broad competition policy framework" that will govern the country's telecommunications sector.

Jorge Sarmiento, NTC deputy commissioner, said technological developments over the past few years had prompted the regulatory body to draft specific rules that would prevent anti-competitive behavior among players.

The framework will define what actions are to be considered anti-competitive, Sarmiento said. It will also give a more concrete meaning to predatory pricing and discriminatory practices, thus eliminating the need for constant arguments regarding these issues.

"There's a critical need for this because of all the new developments [in the sector]," Sarmiento said in an interview Thursday. "We looked at existing rules, regulations and even the law, and we found that they were lacking."

RA 7925, or the Public Telecommunications Policy Act of 1995, outlines how a deregulated telco sector should look, including the competition that come with it.

However, the law does not provide concrete definitions of anti-competitive behavior, leaving this open to interpretation and argument most of the time.

"Since the industry has been deregulated, we just want clarity in the competition area," he said. "There are new entrants and there are existing players. All of them want clarity, so [under the framework, we'll be giving] detailed definitions, instances and even penalties for behavior that will be deemed anti-competitive."

He said the new framework should be ready within the year.

# GPHC buys back shares for ₱111M

THE GRAND Plaza Hotel Corp., owner of The Heritage Hotel on Roxas Boulevard, has bought back 2.22 million of its common shares from the market for a total of P111.41 million.

The shares represented 99.3 percent of GPHC's total 2.24 million common shares covered under the buyback program.

The proposed buyback was approved by the GPHC board in April to boost shareholder value.

Each share was priced at P50. The hotel operator offered to buy one share out of every 35 shares held by each stockholder as of the record date, or June 2. Payment to stockholders who availed of the buyback will be made on June 17.

GPHC last traded on Dec. 29, closing at P33 a share.

*Elizabeth L. Sanchez*

# SEC it to me, baby!

**BREAKTIME**

*Conrado R. Banal III*

ANOTHER school year is about to begin, and I can almost see the sadness on the faces of school-age boys and wide blissful grins on the faces of their mothers.

I can hear mothers shouting in their hearts: "Yipee, the brats are going away to school everyday again." It's something similar to a last second winning goal. YES!

Anyway, what I am trying to say is that, despite the awful problem of preneed companies over those "open-ended" education plans, the public seems to have remained calm.

None of the millions of plan holders went on a shooting rampage or, perhaps due to intense pressure, called for a press conference to declare the country jueteng-free.

We all know that preneed companies are having a hard time covering for those "open-ended" education plans due to the runaway tuition and other school fees.

I don't want to stir panic, but everybody must be on the lookout for bathwater—with the soap and towel in it, plus the baby—which the SEC is throwing out the window.

The Securities and Exchange Commission, as you know, is trying everything within its power to solve the problem in the preneed industry by creating public panic.

* * *

TO HELP ease public concern over the preneed crisis involving those "open-ended" education plans, the SEC recently revoked the incorporation of a preneed company.

That's the Lifetime Plans, a spin-off company of Pacific Plans, which belongs to the Yuchengco group of taipan Alfonso Yuchengco.

Pacific Plans is asking court approval for a rehab plan for some 34,000 "open-ended" education plan holders, hoping to give back their initial investment, plus interest.

Otherwise, according to Pacific Plans, it would just have to fold up, and all those plan holders would get nothing at all. Not even a Batman tumbler or what!

But Pacific Plans had more than 400,000 holders of preneed plans other than the problematic "open-ended" education plan.

To shield them from the problem of "open-ended" education plans, Pacific Plans officials spun off their business to another company, which was Lifetime Plans.

It was some sort of a cancer surgery in reverse. You know, you remove the good cells and then put them in another healthy body.

* * *

BUT in another one of its famous knee jerk reaction, the SEC ruled that, with or without the Pacific Plans cancer, the spin-off company Lifetime Plans could not go on existing.

The SEC, as I said, cancelled the "incorporation" of Lifetime Plans. In business, the incorporation papers are the equivalent of birth certificates for people.

Everybody needs a birth certificate, not so much to prove that you were actually born and you did not just come out of thin air, but as a legal document to prove almost everything, such as your citizenship or your underwear size.

For business, the SEC incorporation papers are the legal documents showing the birth of a legal entity—a corporation.

By revoking the incorporation of Lifetime Plans, the SEC in effect killed an entity that, like the OB-Gyne for babies, the SEC itself delivered.

And that's it. You, Lifetime Plans, no longer exist. Just like that! I just don't know if those mothers of school-age boys wish they had the same awesome power.

* * *

AND SO, what happened after the SEC played god over Lifetime Plans, revoking its very existence?

Immediately, it should mean that Pacific Plans could no longer pursue its rehab. This was premised on the isolation of those problematic "open-ended" education plans.

Not knowing what the next panic-stricken move of the SEC would be, both Pacific Plans and Lifetime Plans thus stopped payments to its customers.

In particular, Pacific Plans was still paying for the tuition and other school fees of its "open-ended" plan holders this school year.

The company set aside almost P600 million, with P250 million coming from the old man Yuchengco himself, for those plan holders.

It already released more than P300 million. Now it is holding back the release of the more than P200 million.

As for the more than 400,000 plan holders of Lifetime Plans, particularly those with fixed-value education plans, they too could not get their benefits.

Well, nothing is clear at this time, because both Pacific Plans and Lifetime Plans have no idea what the SEC revocation would mean to their 400,000 plan holders.

Would it mean that the SEC wanted the two firms to fold up, taking down everybody with them, or should they just sweep the problem of open-ended plans under the rug?

* * *

BUT amid such a mix-up, the SEC is saying that, well, it actually does not have the power to force either Pacific Plans or Lifetime Plans to pay for the benefits of their plan holders.

Such power, according to the SEC, properly belongs to the court. *Aray*!

Does it mean that all those more than 400,000 plan holders must wait for the court to decide whether they can or cannot get their own money?

And how long do you think such a decision will take? Will it take a lifetime?

Come on, boss, we would have expected the SEC to have thought out well such a drastic measure as killing an existing, ongoing concern like Lifetime Plans.

It has never been done before. I thought the SEC should have something like an action plan, for example, to deal with the consequence of its move.

Did it have a plan at all? Well, it had a plan, and its plan was, well, to tell us that everything would be up to the courts.

Heaven help us all.

* * *

SURELY the SEC has expected Pacific Plans and Lifetime Plans would be doing something about the SEC measure that, in effect, killed the rehab plan for the "open-ended" plan holders.

But then again, the SEC also perhaps did not have what it takes to anticipate problems. It could have been just a knee-jerk reaction to the media-aided pressure from those noisy "open-ended" plan holders.

It is also possible that the SEC was taking orders from somebody upstairs who is not in heaven but who must be god to the SEC.

Somebody above the SEC has been insisting that the Pacific Plans spin-off of the more than 400,000 preneed plans to another company was bad.

Instead of going to court, the SEC cancelled the license of Lifetime. Without any hearing whatsoever! *Basta*, you, Lifetime Plans, no longer exist.

* * *

AND the reason of the SEC seemed to be fickle. It said that Lifetime failed to submit reports on the car plans of its employees and on some P40 million in receivables.

That, in accounting term, only means that Lifetime had some P40 million in possible revenue. The SEC wanted Lifetime to report what happened to the account.

Lifetime claimed that it already reported the matter to the SEC, precisely in the letter of its auditor, the Punongbayan & Araullo accounting firm.

But the SEC said, no. Lifetime did not report the matter. And, without much ado, without any hearing or what, the SEC proceeded to kill the entity.

Look, in this case, you miss one freaking report, you lose your life.

But if you engage in, say, some pyramiding schemes, the SEC would only revoke your license to sell securities—not your incorporation, mind you.

And then, the SEC would renew your license to sell securities, if you merely promise never to sin again.

# Morgan Stanley bullish on RP

From page B1

higher next year with the expected improvement in business confidence in the Philippines due to the fiscal reforms.

In the past years, government spending for infrastructure only stood at an average of a little over 3 percent of the total national budget. The figure was one of the lowest allocations for infrastructure among countries in the region. With the VAT, the government hopes to raise spending for infrastructure, one of the main considerations of businesses in investing in a country.

The government's fiscal problem had forced it to undertake tight spending even on vital things like infrastructure.

The Department of Finance earlier said the tax measures would allow the government to allot more funds on vital expenditures. The government has programmed that this year, 100 percent of the proceeds of the VAT law and other new tax measures (such as the "sin" tax law and the lateral attrition law) would be used to reduce the national government's budget deficit. But starting 2006, incremental revenues from the tax measures would be used to beef up government spending especially for infrastructure.

The DOF said that in 2006, 70 percent of the additional revenues would be used for deficit-reduction and 30 percent would be used to increase government spending. In 2007, the government will adopt a 65:35 revenue allocation scheme in favor of deficit reduction; 2008, 60:40; 2009, 55:45; and 2010, 50:50.

## PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of June 3, 2005)

| STOCKS | OPEN | HIGH | LOW | CLOSE | VOLUME |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES | | | | | |
| BANKS | | | | | |
| Banco de Oro Univ. Bank | 32.5 | 33 | 32.5 | 32.5 | 556,500 |
| Bank of the Phil. Islands | 50 | 50 | 49.5 | 50 | 4,306,100 |
| China Banking Corp. | 770 | 770 | 770 | 770 | 10 |
| Citystate Savings Bank | 17.5 | 17.5 | 17.5 | 17.5 | 400 |
| Export and Ind. Bank Inc. | 0.65 | 0.66 | 0.65 | 0.65 | 2,510,000 |
| Equitable PCI Bank Inc. | 52 | 52 | 51 | 51 | 31,000 |
| International Exch. Bank | 19 | 19 | 19 | 19 | 17,800 |
| Metropolitan Bank & Trust | 31.5 | 32 | 31 | 31.5 | 612,800 |
| Philippine National Bank | 34 | 34.5 | 34 | 34 | 26,900 |
| Rizal Comm. Banking Corp. | 11 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 9,200 |
| Security Bank Corp. | 29.5 | 29.5 | 29.5 | 29.5 | 400 |
| Union Bank of the Phil. | 28.5 | 28.5 | 28.5 | 28.5 | 91,000 |
| FINANCIAL SERVICES | | | | | |
| First Metro Invest. Corp. | 226 | 267.5 | 226 | 267.5 | 390 |
| Manulife Financial Corp. | 2450 | 2450 | 2450 | 2450 | 750 |
| PCI Leasing & Fin. Inc. | 1.04 | 1.04 | 1.04 | 1.04 | 50,000 |
| Sun Life Financial Inc. | 1680 | 1680 | 1680 | 1680 | 230 |
| COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL | | | | | |
| COMMUNICATION | | | | | |
| ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp. | 11.75 | 12 | 11.75 | 12 | 70,200 |
| Diversified Fin. Network | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 1,000 |
| Digital Telecom Phils Inc. | 1.14 | 1.14 | 1.12 | 1.14 | 2,226,000 |
| Globe Telecom Inc. | 880 | 910 | 880 | 900 | 130,170 |
| Ipeople Inc. | 3.45 | 3.5 | 3.45 | 3.5 | 44,000 |
| Island Info and Tech Inc. | 0.043 | 0.043 | 0.042 | 0.042 | 1,800,000 |
| ISM Communications Corp. | 0.05 | 0.0525 | 0.05 | 0.0525 | 6,600,000 |
| Liberty Telecoms Holdings | 0.23 | 0.23 | 0.23 | 0.23 | 130,000 |
| Manila Bulletin Pub. Corp. | 2 | 2.2 | 2 | 2.2 | 9,000 |
| Pilipino Tel. Corp. | 3.35 | 3.4 | 3.35 | 3.4 | 1,333,000 |
| Phil. Long Dis Tel Co. | 1585 | 1590 | 1585 | 1585 | 227,330 |
| Ivantage Corp. | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.68 | 0.7 | 1,160,000 |
| Philweb Corp. | 0.018 | 0.018 | 0.018 | 0.018 | 24,000,000 |
| POWER, ENERGY & OTHER UTILITIES | | | | | |
| Manila Electric Co. A | 16 | 16.5 | 16 | 16.25 | 46,000 |
| Manila Electric Co. B | 24 | 24.75 | 24 | 24.75 | 1,067,900 |
| Manila Water Co. Inc. | 6.5 | 6.7 | 6.5 | 6.7 | 8,598,000 |
| Petron Corp. | 3.35 | 3.4 | 3.25 | 3.35 | 2,703,000 |
| Trans-Asia Oil and Energy | 1.24 | 1.24 | 1.22 | 1.24 | 450,000 |
| TRANSPORTATION SERVICES | | | | | |
| Asian Terminals Inc. | 1.76 | 1.76 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1,222,000 |
| Aboitiz Trans. Sys. Corp. | 1.24 | 1.24 | 1.24 | 1.24 | 1,000 |
| Int'l Container Term'l Sv | 8.1 | 8.1 | 8.1 | 8.1 | 1,289,000 |
| Keppel Phils. Marine Inc. | 0.64 | 0.66 | 0.64 | 0.65 | 250,000 |
| Lorenzo Shipping Corp. | 1.1 | 1.1 | 1.1 | 1.1 | 50,000 |
| CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS | | | | | |
| Engineering Equip. Inc. | 0.61 | 0.62 | 0.61 | 0.61 | 220,000 |
| Holcim Philippines Inc | 3.55 | 3.9 | 3.55 | 3.9 | 1,465,000 |
| FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO | | | | | |
| Alaska Milk Corp. | 3.2 | 3.2 | 3.2 | 3.2 | 211,000 |
| Ginebra San Miguel Inc. | 32 | 32 | 32 | 32 | 3,000 |
| Jollibee Foods Corp. | 29.5 | 29.5 | 29.5 | 29.5 | 17,900 |
| San Miguel Corp. A | 58.5 | 59.5 | 58.5 | 59.5 | 29,000 |
| San Miguel Corp. B | 91.5 | 91.5 | 90.5 | 91 | 201,900 |
| Universal Robina Corp. | 13.75 | 14 | 13.75 | 14 | 145,000 |
| Vitarich Corp. | 0.25 | 0.27 | 0.25 | 0.26 | 220,000 |
| HOLDING FIRMS | | | | | |
| Abacus Con Res & Hdg A | 0.0085 | 0.0085 | 0.0085 | 0.0085 | 13,000,000 |
| Ayala Corp. | 370 | 380 | 370 | 377.5 | 219,350 |
| Aboitiz Equity Ventures | 5.2 | 5.3 | 5.2 | 5.2 | 2,159,000 |
| Ajo.Net Holdings Inc. | 0.033 | 0.034 | 0.033 | 0.034 | 29,400,000 |
| A. Soriano Corp | 2.1 | 2.1 | 2.1 | 2.1 | 235,000 |
| APC Group Inc. | 0.32 | 0.34 | 0.32 | 0.32 | 130,000 |
| Alcorn Gold Res. Corp. | 0.0065 | 0.0065 | 0.0065 | 0.0065 | 30,000,000 |
| Bacnotan Cons Indus Inc. | 11.75 | 11.75 | 11.75 | 11.75 | 2,500 |
| Boulevard Holdings Inc. | 0.155 | 0.175 | 0.155 | 0.175 | 1,040,000 |
| Benpres Holdings Corp. | 1.06 | 1.1 | 1.04 | 1.06 | 10,272,000 |
| Basic Consolidated Inc. | 0.17 | 0.17 | 0.17 | 0.17 | 50,000 |
| Crown Equities Inc. | 0.23 | 0.23 | 0.22 | 0.22 | 850,000 |
| Southeast Asian Cement | 0.32 | 0.32 | 0.32 | 0.32 | 980,000 |
| DMCI Holdings Inc. | 2.8 | 2.9 | 2.8 | 2.85 | 6,436,000 |
| Filinvest Dev. Corp. | 1.32 | 1.36 | 1.32 | 1.34 | 255,000 |
| Fil-Hispano Holdings Corp. | 8.9 | 8.9 | 8.7 | 8.8 | 519,000 |
| First Phil Hldgs Corp. | 51 | 51.5 | 50.5 | 51 | 722,400 |
| Forum Pacific Inc. | 0.17 | 0.17 | 0.17 | 0.17 | 100,000 |
| Global Equities Inc. | 0.09 | 0.095 | 0.0875 | 0.0925 | 6,400,000 |
| J G Summit Holdings Inc. | 3.5 | 3.5 | 3.45 | 3.45 | 25,000 |
| Macroasia Corp. | 1.92 | 1.96 | 1.92 | 1.94 | 138,000 |
| Megaworld Corp. | 1.48 | 1.52 | 1.48 | 1.5 | 16,880,000 |
| Metro Pacific Corp. | 0.38 | 0.39 | 0.38 | 0.38 | 8,430,000 |
| Polar Property Holdings | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2,000 |
| Prime Orion Phils. Inc. | 0.26 | 0.27 | 0.26 | 0.27 | 70,000 |
| Roxas Holdings Inc. | 0.96 | 0.98 | 0.96 | 0.98 | 70,000 |
| SM Investments Corp. | 252.5 | 255 | 252.5 | 255 | 1,013,360 |
| South China Resources Inc | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 10,000 |
| Uniwide Holdings Inc | 0.195 | 0.215 | 0.19 | 0.205 | 33,330,000 |
| Waterfront Phils. Inc. | 0.23 | 0.23 | 0.23 | 0.23 | 100,000 |
| MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING | | | | | |
| Picop Resources Inc. | 0.095 | 0.0975 | 0.095 | 0.0975 | 500,000 |
| Steniel Manufacturing | 0.13 | 0.13 | 0.13 | 0.13 | 70,000 |
| HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICES | | | | | |
| Belle Corp. | 1.2 | 1.26 | 1.18 | 1.26 | 8,809,000 |
| Fairmont Holdings Inc. | 0.84 | 0.84 | 0.84 | 0.84 | 50,000 |
| Leisure & Resorts Corp. | 1.3 | 1.36 | 1.3 | 1.36 | 2,950,000 |
| Premiere Ent. Prod. Inc. | 0.33 | 0.33 | 0.33 | 0.33 | 200,000 |
| Philippine Racing Club | 3.6 | 3.6 | 3.6 | 3.6 | 50,000 |
| BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS | | | | | |
| ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp. (PDR) | 11.75 | 11.75 | 11.75 | 11.75 | 297,400 |
| PROPERTY | | | | | |
| Ayala Land Inc. | 8.1 | 8.7 | 8.1 | 8.5 | 23,976,000 |
| Cityland Development Corp. | 1.54 | 1.54 | 1.54 | 1.54 | 46,000 |
| Cebu Holdings Inc. | 0.97 | 1 | 0.97 | 1 | 1,140,000 |
| C & P Homes Inc | 0.28 | 0.31 | 0.28 | 0.3 | 10,950,000 |
| Cyber Bay Corp. | 0.225 | 0.24 | 0.225 | 0.235 | 2,350,000 |
| Empire East Land Inc. | 0.4 | 0.41 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 7,370,000 |
| Filinvest Land Inc. | 1.56 | 1.62 | 1.56 | 1.6 | 15,507,000 |
| Highlands Prime Inc. | 2.28 | 2.28 | 2.28 | 2.28 | 20,000 |
| Kuok Phil. Properties | 0.24 | 0.24 | 0.23 | 0.23 | 570,000 |
| Fil-Estate Land Inc. | 0.58 | 0.58 | 0.58 | 0.58 | 50,000 |
| MRC Allied Ind. Inc. | 0.155 | 0.155 | 0.155 | 0.155 | 20,000 |
| Phil Realty And Holdings | 0.18 | 0.18 | 0.18 | 0.18 | 120,000 |
| SM Development Corp | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1,000 |
| SM Prime Holdings Inc | 8.1 | 8.1 | 7.8 | 7.9 | 4,728,000 |
| MINING | | | | | |
| Abra Mining & Industrial | 0.007 | 0.007 | 0.007 | 0.007 | 71,000,000 |
| Atlas Cons Min & Dev't | 4.95 | 4.95 | 4.8 | 4.8 | 226,000 |
| Dizon Copper Silver Mines | 3.05 | 3.05 | 3.05 | 3.05 | 2,000 |
| Lepanto Cons Mng. Co. A | 0.32 | 0.33 | 0.31 | 0.33 | 4,450,000 |
| Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co B | 0.36 | 0.37 | 0.35 | 0.35 | 6,300,000 |
| Manila Mining Corp. A | 0.015 | 0.015 | 0.015 | 0.015 | 6,000,000 |
| Manila Mining Corp. B | 0.02 | 0.02 | 0.02 | 0.02 | 21,300,000 |
| Omico Corp. | 0.0065 | 0.0065 | 0.0065 | 0.0065 | 40,000,000 |
| Philex Mining Corp. A | 0.93 | 0.93 | 0.91 | 0.92 | 2,420,000 |
| Philex Mining Corp. B | 1.08 | 1.1 | 1.06 | 1.06 | 1,320,000 |
| Semirara Mining Corp | 33 | 33 | 32.5 | 33 | 1,154,100 |
| OIL | | | | | |
| Oriental Pet. & Min. A | 0.006 | 0.006 | 0.006 | 0.006 | 14,000,000 |
| Oriental Pet. & Min. B | 0.007 | 0.007 | 0.007 | 0.007 | 1,000,000 |
| The Philodrill Corp. A | 0.26 | 0.26 | 0.26 | 0.26 | 10,000 |
| Petroenergy Res. Corp. | 2.32 | 2.32 | 2.32 | 2.32 | 87,000 |
| Sinophil Corp. | 0.155 | 0.165 | 0.155 | 0.16 | 3,000,000 |

# DISCLOSURES

**F & J Prince Holdings Corp.** will hold its annual stockholders' meeting on July 18, 3 p.m. at Function Room 7, 34th Floor Citibank Tower, 8741 Paseo de Roxas, Makati City. Only stockholders of record as of June 20 are entitled to notice of and to vote at the meeting.

* * *

ELECTED as directors of **Vivant Corp.** were Antonio Garcia De Escaño, Dennis Garcia, Elbert Zosa, Ramontito Garcia, Efren Sarmiento, Edgardo Bautista, Gil Garcia II, Charles Sylvestre Garcia, Shem Jose Garcia, Raul Rabe and Atty. Jesus Garcia.

* * *

**ZIPPORAH Realty Holdings Inc.** postponed the annual stockholders' meeting scheduled on June 18. The new date and details will be announced later.

* * *

**MANILA Jockey Club** announced that an additional 179,141,451 shares has been fully paid pursuant to the rights offering last May. This brings the total number of fully paid common shares to 179,224,894 and 774,248 partially paid common shares.

* * *

**MANILA Broadcasting Company** rescheduled the annual stockholder's meeting from June 9 to Aug. 11, 3 p.m. at Star Theater, Star City, CCP Complex, Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City. Only Stockholders of record as of Aug. 5 are entitled to notice of and to vote at the meeting. *Compiled by Chona Galang, PDI Research*

# Broad powers . . .

From page B1

"The development of special economic zones in the municipalities nearby, bordering the highway and railway and connected to the airports and seaports in Subic, Clark and Manila must be encouraged as this will bring jobs to the people ... and promote a rising standard of living and an improved quality of life for all," he added.

The senator, who was former chair of the SBMA, said the development of more economic zones would decentralize economic development and thus decongest the overcrowded key cities in Luzon, particularly those in Metro Manila.

The bill, aside from granting authority to the SBMA and CDC to develop ecozones, also seeks to provide other powers to the two organizations. These include, among others, the setting of minimum wage and imposition of strike moratorium in businesses to be located in the ecozones, to enter into joints ventures or other investment activities to raise funds, and to establish subsidiaries.

The bill also seeks to empower the two agencies with authority to grant various incentives to businesses that will locate in the economic zones.

The bill is perceived to be in response to the ongoing row between the Bases Conversion Development Authority, which oversees CDC, and Camp John Hay Development Corp. *Michelle V. Remo*

# Comprehensive wood industry policy sought

By Ronnel W. Domingo

SEVERAL wood-based firms were forced to shut down their operations and some 20,000 industry workers lost their jobs due to the continued imposition of a total log ban in the country, members of the Philippine Wood Producers Association said during a recent forum.

PWPA president Antonio C. Olizon also said the country was not attracting any new investments in the sector due to the log ban.

PWPA was one of the convenors of the two-day Philippine Forestry Development Forum held June 2 and 3 at the Asian Development Bank complex in Mandaluyong City.

"Hundreds of millions of pesos have gone [down the drain] and about 20,000 people have lost their jobs," Olizon said.

"This is just like the mining sector before the favorable Supreme Court decision that paved the way for a renewed investor interest [in the local mining industry]," he added.

"The difference is that the solution to our problem lies in the executive branch."

Malacañang declared the total log ban last December in the wake of the devastating flash floods in Aurora and Quezon provinces triggered by successive typhoons.

Olizon explained that wood producers who had shut down their operations, as well as those considering to do so, could "not stand six months of uncertainty."

The government should not take so long in allowing companies who have been found to be responsible forest managers to resume their production, he said. "In the first place, it was not established that the cause of the [calamity] was logging."

Executive Secretary Eduardo R. Ermita, who delivered the keynote speech at the forum, said the government was drafting an omnibus forestry policy aimed at compiling existing policies to produce a single program.

Olizon said this was what industry stakeholders were calling for.

"What we need is a long-term policy for the industry, one that would not be changed in short periods of time."

Manoel Sobral Filho, executive director of the Japan-based International Tropical Timber Organization, told the forum that a blanket ban on logging would be counter-productive to forest conservation because it would encourage illegal logging and continued deforestation.

"In my view, the best option is to encourage those communities and companies that are attempting to put sustainable forest management [SFM] into practice," Sobral said.

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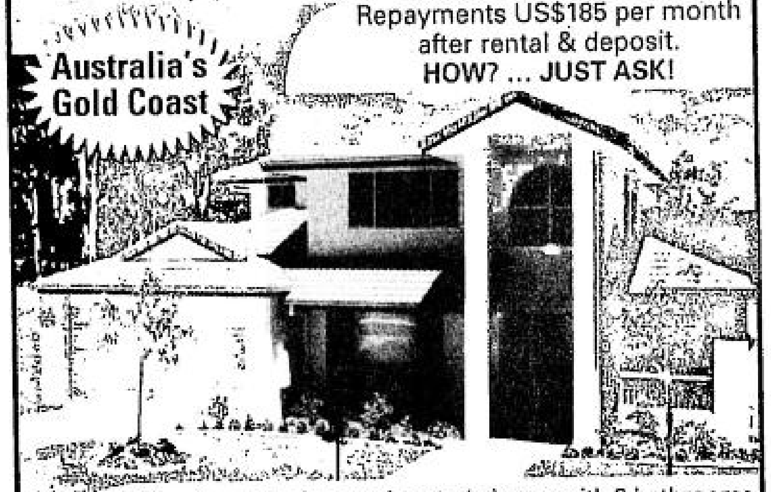

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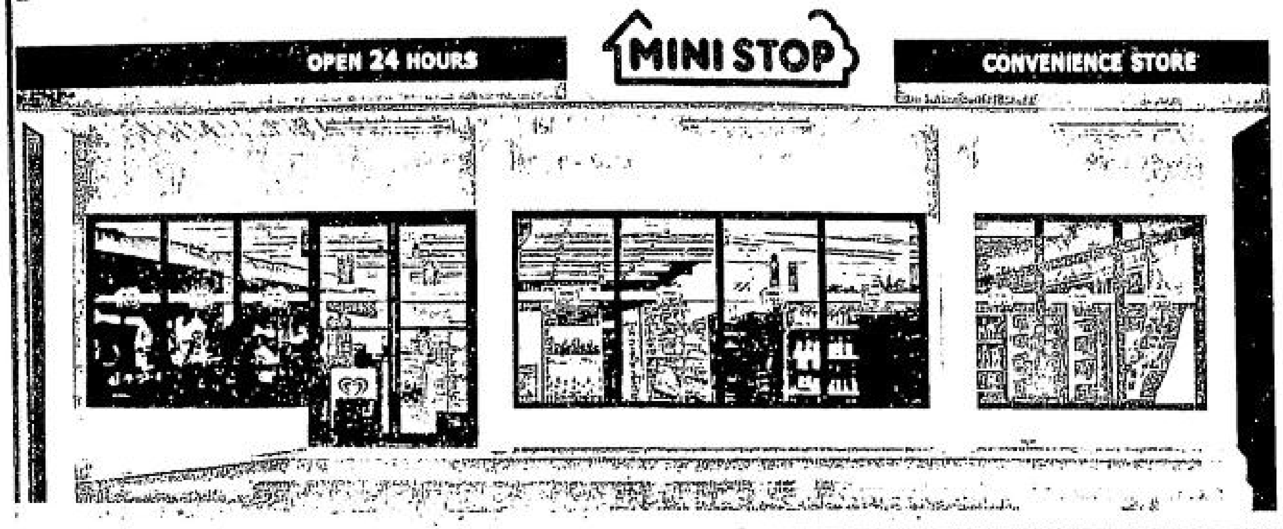

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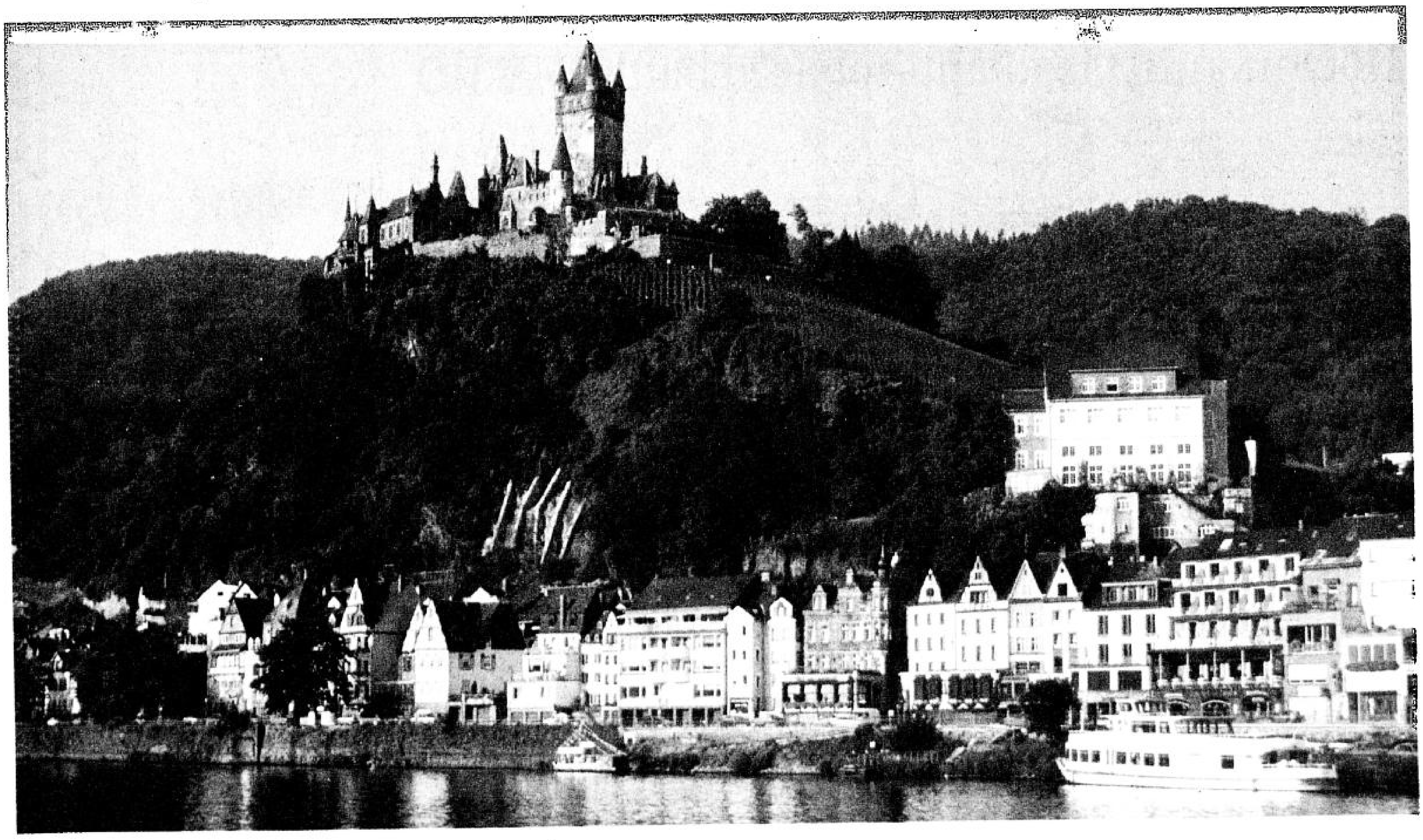

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E-mail: pr_science_health@inquirer.com.ph
Editor Cesar D. Mangawang
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THE WORLD Health Organization says nearly five million deaths each year are tobacco-related. AP

## Tobacco firms studied how to hook female smokers, says study

BOSTON—Tobacco companies did elaborate research on women to figure out how to hook them on smoking, even toying with the idea of chocolate-flavored cigarettes that would curb appetite, according to a new analysis.

Researchers at Harvard University's School of Public Health said they examined more than seven million documents—some dating back to 1969, others as recent as 2000—for new details about the industry's efforts to lure more women smokers.

Carrie Carpenter, the study's lead author, said companies' research went far beyond a marketing or advertising campaign.

"They did so much research in such a sophisticated way," she said. "Women should know how far the tobacco industry went to exploit them."

The report, published in the June issue of the journal Addiction, says tobacco companies looked for ways to modify their cigarettes to give women the illusion they could puff their way into a better life.

### Long, slim cigarettes

One of the documents, a 1987 internal report from Philip Morris, extolled the virtues of making a longer, slimmer cigarette that offered the false promise of a "healthier" product.

"Most smokers have little notion of their brand's tar and nicotine levels," the report states. "Perception is more important than reality, and in this case the perception is of reduced tobacco consumption."

A Philip Morris spokesperson declined to comment on the report, saying the company hasn't had a chance to fully review it.

The Harvard researchers spent more than a year sifting through an online database of internal documents made public following the 1998 settlement between tobacco companies and 46 states.

Carpenter said they found at least 320 documents that focused on women's smoking patterns, including a 1982 report from British-American Tobacco Co. that said women buy cigarettes to help them "cope with neuroticism."

"We can safely conclude that the strength of cigarettes that are purchased by women is related to their degree of neuroticism," the report stated.

### Appetite suppressant

Other internal studies showed that companies explored adding appetite suppressants to cigarettes.

In 1980, for instance, R.J. Reynolds Co. proposed creating a cigarette with a "unique flavor that decreases a smoker's appetite, including brandy, chocolate, chocolate mint, cinnamon, spearmint and honey."

However, researchers didn't find any evidence they followed through with that idea. Officials at R.J. Reynolds didn't respond to requests for comment.

### More women smokers

Worldwide smoking rates among women are expected to increase 20 percent by 2025, "driven by the growth of female markets in developing countries," while men's smoking rates are steadily declining, the Harvard report says.

Jack Henningfield, a professor of behavioral biology at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, said he hopes the report serves as a "call to action" for government officials to focus their anti-smoking efforts on women, particularly in developing countries.

"It's a time bomb," said Henningfield, director of the Innovators Combating Substance Abuse Program at Johns Hopkins. "They've got to act now to prevent the time bomb from exploding."

Carpenter said there is no evidence in the trove of documents that suggests tobacco companies have stopped targeting women.

"Without regulation from government agencies, we don't know what they're doing today," she added.

The Harvard research project was funded in part by the National Cancer Institute. *AP*

## *Smoking doubles eye disorder risk*

LONDON—People who smoke have double the risk of suffering from a degenerative eye disorder that is the leading cause of blindness in the elderly, researchers said.

A study of more than 4,000 Britons aged 75 years and older showed that those who smoke were twice as likely to have age-related macular degeneration (AMD) as those who didn't.

"Smoking is associated with a twofold increased risk of developing AMD," said Prof. Astrid Fletcher, of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, in a study published in the British Journal of Ophthalmology.

AMD is an illness that blurs the central vision. It affects the macula, or part of the eye that sees fine detail.

The risk of suffering from the illness increases with age.

### No risk for quitters

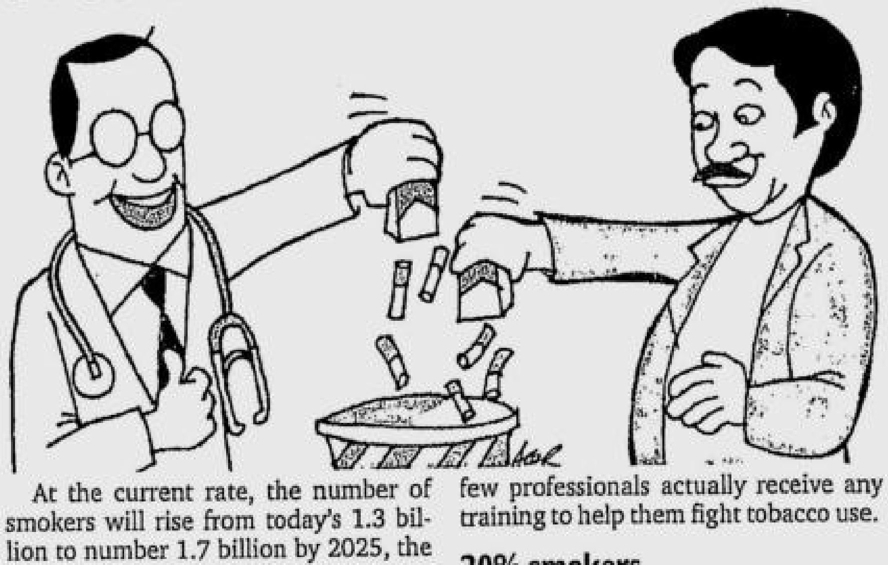
Fletcher and her colleagues questioned people in the study about their smoking habits, alcohol consumption and cardiovascular disease.

People who had stopped smoking more than 20 years earlier had no increased risk developing the illness.

Based on the findings, the researchers estimate that smoking is likely to have been linked to up to 30,000 cases of the disease in Britain.

"An increased risk of AMD...is yet another reason for people to stop smoking and governments to develop public health campaigns against this hazard," Fletcher said. *Reuters*

## Doctors must lead anti-tobacco battle—WHO



GENEVA—The head of the World Health Organization urged doctors and other medical professionals to stop smoking, saying they should be role models in the battle to curb tobacco-related death and disease.

"Tobacco continues to be a leading global killer, with nearly five million deaths a year," said WHO director general Lee Jong-wook.

"The health community plays a key role in the global effort to fight this epidemic," Lee said in a statement to mark Tuesday's "World No Tobacco Day."

"Health professionals are on the frontline. They need the skills to help people stop smoking, and they need to lead by example, and quit tobacco use themselves."

### 1 death every 6.5 seconds

Tobacco-related disease claims one life every six and a half seconds, and the annual death toll is expected to double to 10 million by 2020, with most of the victims in developing countries, according to the WHO.

At the current rate, the number of smokers will rise from today's 1.3 billion to number 1.7 billion by 2025, the UN health agency said.

Health professionals, including doctors, dentists, pharmacists, nurses and midwives can be the key to helping people change their behavior, said the WHO.

Studies show that advice from health professionals can raise quitting rates by up to 50 percent, it said.

However, research also shows that few professionals actually receive any training to help them fight tobacco use.

### 20% smokers

In addition, smoking in the medical profession acts as a barrier to anti-tobacco campaigning, said the WHO.

Seven out of 10 countries in a WHO study reported that cigarette smoking prevalence among health professionals was greater than 20 percent.

Prevalence ranged between 0.5 percent and 47 percent, the lowest found among nursing students in Uganda and the highest among pharmacy students in Albania, said the WHO.

Last year, 168 governments finalized a tobacco control treaty after several years of negotiations brokered by the WHO.

The treaty, the first-ever global health accord, came into force in February.

Known officially as the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, it advocates bans on tobacco advertising and sponsorship, as well as sales to minors.

It also includes public smoking restrictions, larger health warnings on cigarette packs and promotes taxation as a way to cut consumption and fight smuggling.

The treaty faced strong opposition from tobacco multinationals, as well as governments with substantial tobacco industries or farming.

But cigarette giants have since said they accept some of its provisions, including health warnings and anti-contraband measures, while still expressing concerns about tax hikes. *AFP*

## We've got mail

**EUREKA!**

*Queena N. Lee-Chua*

MATH remains an elusive topic, and readers continuously send queries about the subject. Winnie of Davao [webatoon@yahoo.com] writes:

**I am a secondary school math teacher and currently writing a research paper on Japanese math education. I decided to compare Japanese math education with Philippine math education, but my problem is I don't have any reference. When I surfed the Net, I saw your paper and I got interested in it. Can you give me more sites about mathematics education in our country? Hope you can help me.**

There are lots of math education sites on the Net, including cross-cultural studies of Japanese and US research. Go to the site of the Mathematical Association of America (www.maa.org) or the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (www.nctm.org) for links to related topics.

As for local research, get a copy of my book "Eureka!" at major bookstores. Or call Anvil Publishing sales at 637-3621 or 5141 (Lorie or Bong) or e-mail anvilsales@eudoramail.com to order one.

You may also want to look at our local publication on mathematics education, the journal Intersection. Write to mathted@mathsci.math.edu.ph to request for copies.

### Filipino physicists

Mikhaela Clavite [khaela911@yahoo.com] writes:

**I kindly ask your help about Filipino physicists and their contributions. To be honest, I really need them to satisfy my laboratory requirements.**

Part of education is to learn to look for references. In today's age, with the Internet spanning the globe, it is particularly easy to look for assignment requirements. There are numerous sites on Filipino physicists if you only take the time and effort to look. Use google.com for a quick listing.

I will give you a tip: there are two local books on Filipino scientists which will help you: "National Scientists of the Philippines" (published by National Academy of Science and Technology) and my book "Ten Outstanding Filipino Scientists." Both are available from Anvil.

### Teaching strategies

Ramon Morales [monsmorales@yahoo.com] writes:

**I'm happy to read your column on innovative teaching in math. Being a teacher I would like to make some requests: How can I get a copy of Patuinan's paper on the TIMSS study? Could you please also feature innovative teaching strategies applied particularly in physics? Are there studies in math or science done locally that employ the constructivist method known as Anchored Instructions? Saturdays are not complete for me if I don't get to read your column. More power to you! God bless!**

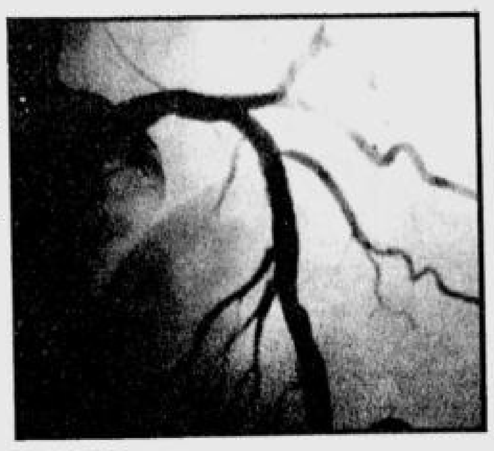
Thank you for your continued support. The best way to get Dolores Patuinan's paper is to write to her directly at the Mindanao State University in Marawi. I am sure she will gladly send you a copy.

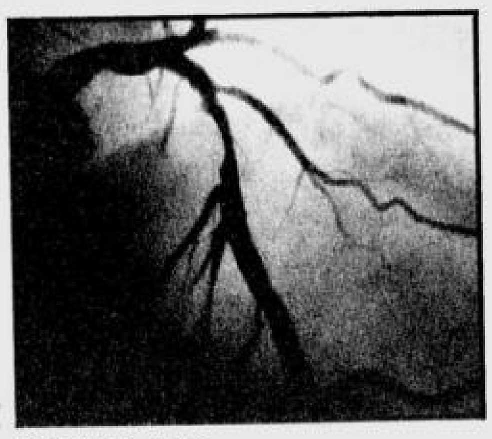
As for innovative teaching strategies in physics, there is not as much local research done in the area (compared to, for example, mathematics teaching). However, there is a slew of information done by American and European educators. Go to google.com and type "physics teaching." There are a lot of sites. You may want to concentrate on university (those with a suffix of edu) and government (with a suffix of gov) rather than commercial sites (those with a suffix of com).

There are also lots of studies done on anchored instruction, again abroad. The few done here I have already mentioned previously in my column on innovative teaching. I also had a paper on college math instruction with anchors (specifically, statistics and probability learning) published in the international journal The Mathematics Educator 7(1). Their website is http://math.nie.edu.sg./ame. You can e-mail them for a copy. God bless you, too.

*Contact the author at blessbook@yahoo.com.*

# New options for coronary artery disease patients


STENTED artery


BLOCKED artery

CYPHER stent

By Tessa R. Salazar

*(First of two parts)*

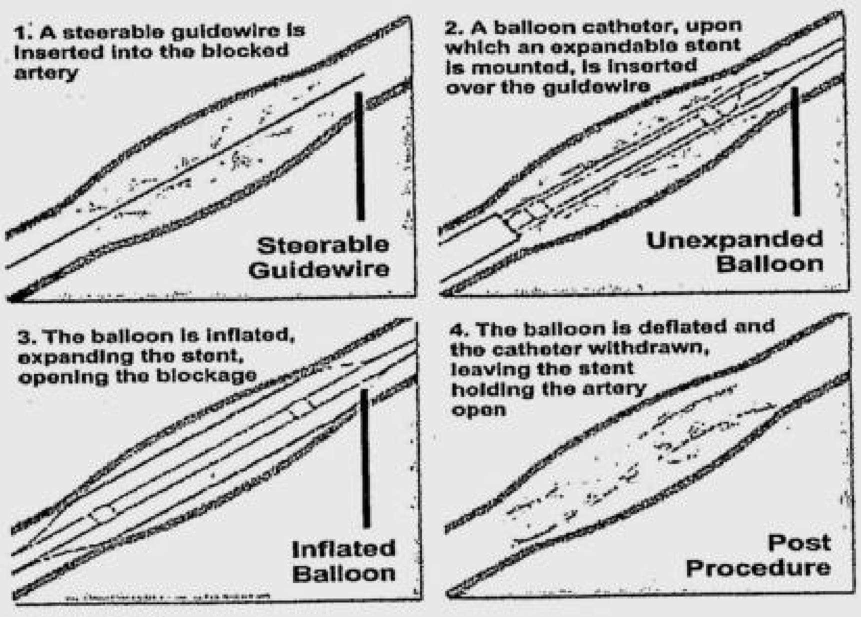
CORONARY artery disease (CAD), one of the deadliest in the Philippines, occurs when blood flow to the heart and the body is restricted due to hardened or narrowed arteries.

When an artery becomes too narrow, the flow of oxygen-rich blood is constricted. If left untreated, CAD may lead to a heart attack, which occurs when heart muscles, deprived of oxygen, become damaged.

The usual treatment for CAD involves a cocktail of drugs. And when medication proves insufficient, the patients are given other options, usually involving invasive surgery.

### Relieving artery narrowing

One option is balloon angioplasty, which is done primarily to relieve artery narrowing. It provides immediate results with less invasive surgery. The process involves a catheter with a balloon at the tip inserted through the femoral artery to the coronary artery. When the catheter reaches the intended area, the balloon is inflated, forcing the clogged artery to open up.


1. A steerable guidewire is inserted into the blocked artery
Steerable Guidewire
2. A balloon catheter, upon which an expandable stent is mounted, is inserted over the guidewire
Unexpanded Balloon
3. The balloon is inflated, expanding the stent, opening the blockage
Inflated Balloon
4. The balloon is deflated and the catheter withdrawn, leaving the stent holding the artery open
Post Procedure
CYPHER Sirolimus Stent

With balloon angioplasty, however, the treated area could become constricted again after a few months. A form of scar tissue called restenosis can occur. Heart experts say it could be treated again, or re-dilated, but the re-narrowing rate would still be high.

Balloon angioplasty carries with it a 33 percent chance of a keloid recurring in six months. Otherwise, a balloon angioplasty procedure would be considered successful.

### Invasive heart bypass surgery

Another option is invasive heart bypass surgery, which is usually risky, expensive and painful.

Said Dr. David P. Lee, associate director for cardiac catherization and coronary intervention laboratories at Stanford Interventional Cardiology: "In the past, angioplasty was often used if medicines failed, depending on the patient's coronary anatomy. In some situations, heart bypass surgery was considered to be a better solution." He recently visited the Philippines to lecture on drug eluting stents (DES).

"Now in the era of drug-eluting stents, we are seeing a shift from bypass to DES," he said.

Cardiologists developed stents as a solution to the problem of recurring blockages in the arteries.

Coronary stenting pushes the fatty plaque back against the artery wall to make more room for blood to flow through the artery.

Stenting, however, does not guarantee zero risk of a heart attack. Lee, who is also assistant professor of cardiovascular medicine and director of interventional cardiology fellowship program, stressed that "(stenting) could reduce the symptoms but not necessarily the risk of heart attack or death."

He described a stent as basically a stainless steel tube that heart surgeons use to help keep an artery open when they do balloon work inside the artery.

# Harnessing the power of the mind

By Rafael R. Castillo, MD

**MEDICAL FILES**

WE'VE read a lot about the power of mind over matter. We can either harness it for good causes and to our advantage, or be victims of its consequences.

It's amazing when our thoughts become reality. This is probably what others call self-fulfilling prophecy. Whether it's the power of our mind influencing events or plain coincidence, science has yet to provide a rational explanation.

I'm not a big advocate of this unchartered science of the mind, but my string of experiences recently seem to support it.

Traveling to Seoul this week, everything just seemed to go wrong. Early in the morning, I had a dozen items on my to-do list, which I needed to rush before my 2 p.m. flight. Quite unnaturally of me, I kept telling myself from the time I woke up that it was going to be a heck of a day and I had a feeling things would turn out nasty. And somehow they did.

### Murphy's law

A heart patient who was already stable suddenly developed difficulty in breathing and had to be hooked back to a respirator. At the editorial office of our health magazine, our manager caught me on the stairs and prevailed on me to stay a little longer to discuss an advertiser's crisis. Then our finance officer informed me that the BIR disallowed a lot of our operational expenses and we're supposed to fork out a big sum for taxes. The 10 minutes I had intended to pick up a few documents turned into more than an hour.

Rushing to the airport, my driver took the wrong route and we got stuck in traffic. I was almost resigned that I would miss my flight. Then I realized I could not afford to miss my flight and the important meeting I was to attend in Seoul. I closed my eyes and visualized myself taking the flight and making it to the meeting. And miracle of miracles, the traffic eased up and we reached the airport with barely 55 minutes before the flight.

I thought the string of negative events had ended; but not quite. As I approached the queue, Mae, a staff member from the travel agency who was kind enough to queue for me, motioned to me to take her place in the line. However, a white guy next to her complained with more words than were necessary to register his objection. I told Mae that it was okay; the man had a point. I was proceeding to the end of the line as Mae was explaining to the guy when he blurted out, "B#&%t!"

### Adrenalin rush

I felt my adrenalin rush up my circulatory system. I approached the man and tried to tell him calmly, "You watch your words, mister. You can say things in a civilized manner."

In an arrogant tone, he replied, "I can say whatever I want to say."

It rarely happens to me, but I felt hell breaking loose that moment. I yelled back at him, "B#&%t you, too."

When he took a step forward, I dropped my bag and jacket, thinking he would engage me in a fistfight. Then the guy seemed to have a change of heart. He stepped back and muttered, "I didn't say b#&%t," to which the others around him chorused, "Yes, you did."

The last time I got into a fistfight was during my high school gang days, and with my leaner frame and lack of ability in martial arts, the guy could have probably beaten me to a pulp. But my mind was all fired up and infuriated by the thought that despite all our hospitality, some foreigners had the nerve to be very condescending toward us.

I thought someone needed to stand up to this abusive guy and teach him a lesson on how to behave nicely among nice people. My mind convinced me I was the person to do it then, and I could do it amicably or otherwise. For a few moments, I intensely visualized him in my mind regretting what he had just done. It looked like he did. And that spared me a black eye or two with bruises to match had he actually engaged me in a fight.

Positive visualization and affirmation have been used by many people to achieve their goals more effectively. Athletes are trained to practice this before a crucial game. Good golfers visualize their swings before they actually do it and imagine their ball landing on the precise point where they want it to land.

It is believed by some that Manny Pacquiao lost to Erik Morales although Manny had the edge, simply because Morales was more mentally prepared.

The power of the mind, if harnessed properly, can make a person achieve sometimes superhuman feats. The important thing though is that we must use it only for a good purpose, otherwise, it can backfire on us.

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# MDH Gift of Vision turns 5

MANILA Doctors Hospital in cooperation with Metrobank Foundation Inc. recently conducted its Gift of Vision program. Now on its fifth year, GOV offers free surgery for poor patients suffering from cataract.

Since year 2000, the program has benefited over 500 patients, coming from such areas as Manila, Cavite, Quezon City and Bulacan. Medical supplies used by the patients were donated by MBFI amounting to over P5 million.

For its part, MDH doctors, diplomates in ophthalmology, waive their professional fees while nurses and other medical staff also volunteer their services for free. Medical facilities used for the program are also free of charge. It is estimated that MDH has spent over P30 million for the GOV program alone.

MDH also supports three other medical missions. Now on its third year, the cleft lip and palate program will be operating on another 40 patients this month while preparations are also underway for the goiter and OB-Gyne surgical missions in October and November.

# Urologists offer free prostate screening

THE PHILIPPINE Urological Association Inc. (PUA) will conduct a nationwide free digital rectal examination (DRE) for men 40 years and above on June 13-18 at various Metro Manila and provincial hospitals.

The annual screening is part of PUA's outreach programs to celebrate Prostate Awareness Week and Father's Day.

Says PUA president Dr. Benjamin Mendoza: "We started the PUA digital rectal examination screening program in 1996 with the aim of providing awareness and early detection of prostate enlargement, prostate cancer and other prostate health conditions affecting men above 40 years old."

### Simple procedure

Dr. Mendoza emphasizes that the digital rectal examination is a simple procedure that allows urologists to assess the prostate gland and to detect early signs of prostate cancer growth.

He adds that "the examination may produce momentary discomfort but it will neither cause damage nor significant pain."

### Free exam, consultation

Dr. Benjamin Ramos, chair of the PUA prostate health committee, discloses that those who are interested can avail of the free DRE and consultation at selected hospitals.

"We are encouraging families to ask their fathers, husbands, uncles, brothers, etc. to avail of this free DRE examination and consultation. We will also be conducting lay forums for patients," Dr. Ramos concludes.

The Prostate Health Awareness Week is an annual project of the PUA, in partnership with hospitals and pharmaceutical companies such as Merck Sharp & Dohme (MSD). For more information, call the PUA secretariat at 925-6740 or 454-4439.

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www.orientalgardenstower.com

RENT TO OWN CONDO or Hse & Lot Nr C5 Market' 0915-2728898 • 0917-7469270

Rockwell Luna Penthouse
P33M 0918-9246504

RUSH! PASEO PARKVIEW TWR1
2BR 114m² prking & balcony
RFO 7.5M neg 0918-9392979

STUDIO 50sm w/prkng
GOOD BUY 0918-9132396

1.9M MAKATI CONDO BNEW NR. AYALA #575-6976

#### MANILA

BAY GARDEN ROXAS BLVD 1,2,3BR 0920-9602940 RFO

MALATE 2BR facing BAY nr diamnd htl 09189132396

SN ANDRES MANILA Bnew Twnhse/3stry/3br/3tb P3.860M up 8903461 loc 34

**FOR SALE**
1 CONDO UNIT FA
83.26 sqm
2 Bedrooms /
3 Parking
near Harrison Plaza
DB Only, P3.5M
Call Ana: T6334774
•6373130

#### PARANAQUE

BF HOMES LA167 FA117 3BR 3TB 1car grge blg garden P2M Call 4539180 / 81 Rene

#### PASAY

Marbela1 1br facng Roxas Blvd P1.8Mneg 4361294; 4261294

#### PASIG

SPECIAL ART DESIGN CONDO 2BR 1TB 54M²-FA 4TH FLR MAYFIELD PARK P3.5M 0918-5229991 SAAR

#### QUEZON CITY

BAYGARDENS 2BR 104.50m² 7.6up 3BR120.50m² 8.2up W/ Parking Roselyn 09203843962

VALENCIA HILLS 3BR 5.9M&UP RFO W/ PARKING ROSELYN 09203843962

#### OTHER AREAS

Boracay Condotel 3.8M
EARN P520T/Yr. ROI 5Yrs. P75T/mo. or 1Yr. No Interest Fully Furnished 0917-8313226

### APARTMENT

#### QUEZON CITY

RUSH SALE! 7Door Apt 5.5M 18th Avenue Cubao 4386208

## REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

### LOT

#### MANDALUYONG

Comm'l Lot Edsa 400m² 6453731

#### MARIKINA

1578sq.m Creme St 634-1212

#### QUEZON CITY

G Garden 300m² P8K Mndanao P15T 600m² Rglado P28T 450m² Neopolitn 09178863211

RUSH LOT PARKWAY Q.C.300SQM 7337767/69/73/1]

#### OTHER AREAS

Canyon Woods-Tagaytay
1.8M Up 10% DP 5Yrs No Int. 300m² Lots, Condo, T-Hse, H&L, FREE Golf Share 0917-8313226

#### BATANGAS

(12)400-700M² LOT IN SANTOMAS 30MSOUTH OF ALABANG NICE VW 1KM FR HWY P900M² CASH / TERMS TEX09184204333/T0437785373

RUSH!!!Best Buy
Mamplasan, Binan LA176sqm P1.3M neg DBO. Call 0917-8997547

### MEMORIAL LOT

COLUMBARY GARDEN VAULTS
In Visayas Avenue, Quezon City Carol 0917-6491952, 723-2975 ofc. hrs

Heritage Park II 634-1212

### FARM/FISHPEN/ RAWLANDS

FULLY OPERATING POULTRY FARM TERESA RIZAL CALL 533-9225 OR 0920-9145862

## REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

### HOUSE

#### ALABANG

141 Batangas West
Ayala Alabang 5BR 5TB
w/s-pool 0917-5265778

#### MANDALUYONG

1B'ROOM HOUSE IN PRIVATE COMPOUND W/ PARKING CALL 533-9225 OR 0920-9145862

#### MUNTINLUPA

Ayalabang Fully Furnshd
3BR+Den, Pool 0918-9246504

#### PASIG

FOR RENT
Amberland Plaza Cond. Ortigas Ctr., Pasig 114sqm. 3BRs, 3TB, mds.rm, 1prkng slot Call: Vangie/Marlin mon-fri @815-22-45

### CONDO/TWNHSE

#### MAKATI

MKT Condo Nice M Day/Monthly Free Utly/prkg/secu 8979417

#### MANILA

P4T 09178863211 / 2547788

#### MANDALUYONG

Semi Condo 13500T 5T 4T Drmland Subd Mand T#5338536 or 09163508758

#### QUEZON CITY

Prince David Condo 1007 2BR furn preferably student 305 Katipunan Ave Loyola Hts QC P20T 3mo Adv 30mo Dep Tel 646-9262 ; 646-2425 c/o Mrs. Teresa dela Cruz

Stud Type Eastwood 4276050

### APARTMENT

#### MANILA

3BR 2TB 3Sty 8992148

#### PASAY

2 BTRM 1TB 7T 1BDRM UP/DN 7T 1 RIDE 2 LNDMRK 8508154

## REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

### APARTMENT

#### PASIG

SCREEND QUIET 2STRY 2BR T6354244 PREFRZ WO KIDS 4 SN CLEMENTE KAPITOLYO

#### QUEZON CITY

2BR / 2TB with parking slot behind Katipunan, very near Ateneo, Miriam, UP 56-E Esteban Abada St Loyola Heights QC P16T/mo 2mos Deposit + 12PDC 4260312 / 09189285337

5 Sipa St. Tailpapa 9.5T/mo 2456946

### WAREHOUSE/ FACTORY

500/250m² 9311684 Rosa Fview

600m² Taguig W'hse w/ Condo Load Dck Pkng 3 Ph 09155661250

### ROOM & BOARD

•FURNISH PASAY 8872865•

Only P200! Daily, Wkly!!! El Grande Inn 8275345 Sucat,PQUE 09178135916

P120! MANILA, 7836781 DAILY, Weekly 09228321888

### BEDSPACE

MALE Bedspacers @ Mla Luxury Condo Pearl Dr. Ortigas /Call 0917-8112936

Mkti nr Ayala P1T Ldy 8974697

### BUSINESS RENTAL

BURGUNDY PLAZA KATIPUNAN Q.C. FRNT ATENEO FA50 m² (res) 75&110m² (Ideal for SPA, GYM) 9289541 / 7361925

### LOAN & MORTGAGE

1.4% MONTHLY 8976644-46 LAS PINAS 8054326 / 6342 QUEZON CITY 3730239-40

BUSINESS . DOCTOR 524-3197

Dentist Loan 0919-5202084

### OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT

7T/mo 14 Quezon Ave QC with toilet 09214304984

MALATE MLA 526-8048/49

## REAL ESTATE FOR SALE OR RENT

### CONDO/TWHSE/ FOR SALE/RENT

#### MAKATI

Makati Manila RFO CONDO Sale / Rent 09176266516

## OTHER REAL ESTATE

### REALTORS/SEMINAR

★SUBIC 80+has.
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438-3309•0920-9112910

## TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

### CARS

#### FORD

'00 EXP Platinum Ed 30T Km Leather Very Nice P900T Neg. T-09154552523 / (046)4130615

#### HONDA

99 CRV AT 5268048-49

#### KIA

97 Sportage 4x4
bnew Firelli Tire A-T P240T
636-6979 / 0927-8917739

#### MITSUBISHI

00 PAJERO FIELD MASTER 4X2 A/T 721-1877 •0927-3970349

2001 Strada, fully loaded, TV, 12cd changer, camper shell w/AC and Japanese Seat, bull bar, ladder, registered /comprehensive insurance. Call 0917-8212626 •09189422422

.96 PAJERO A/T TURBO W/SUNROOF A1 COND P420T 0918-5229991

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**NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY**
Central Luzon Regional Office
Cabanatuan City

## INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID FOR HAULING/TRUCKING SERVICES

The NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY - Central Luzon Regional Office (NFA-CLRO), Cabanatuan City invites all interested Hauling/Trucking Operators to apply for eligibility and to bid for the delivery of grains from Subic Port to the different provinces and warehouses in Region III and Region II with targeted volume per lot and Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) as follows:

A. NFA IMPORTATION FROM SUBIC PORT

| LOT # | RECEIVING PROVINCES | REGION | RECEIVING WAREHOUSES | DISTANCE (KM) | VOLUME BAGS | APPROVED BUDGET FOR THE CONTRACT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| I | AUR | III | Baler | 252 | 12,000 | P 606,863.40 |
|  |  |  | Ma Aurora | 270 | 6,000 | P 331,854.60 |
|  |  |  | Casiguran | 372 | 8,000 | P 657,223.60 |
|  |  |  |  | Total | 26,000 | P 1,595,941.60 |
| II | PAM |  | San Fernando Ct | 75 | 60,600 | P 797,970.20 |
|  |  |  | Mexico | 86 | 20,400 | P 294,647.97 |
|  |  |  |  | Total | 81,000 | P 1,092,618.17 |
| III | ZLS |  | 3Iba | 83 | 25,000 | P 348,492.10 |
|  |  |  | Wawandue-Subic | 1-30 | 9,000 | P 81,675.00 |
|  |  |  |  | Total | 34,000 | P 430,167.10 |
| IV | Cagayan | II | Tuguegarao/Carig | 511 | 12,000 | P 556,479.00 |
|  |  |  | Gonzaga | 608 | 14,000 | P 772,464.00 |
|  |  |  |  | Total | 26,000 | P 1,328,943.00 |
|  | Isabela |  | Santiago | 351 | 12,000 | P 382,239.00 |
|  |  |  | Roxas | 415 | 11,000 | P 414,273.75 |
|  |  |  | Tumauini | 459 | 1,000 | P 41,654.25 |
|  |  |  | Cauayan | 397 | 1,000 | P 36,027.75 |
|  |  |  | Cabagan | 486 | 10,000 | P 441,045.00 |
|  |  |  | Luna | 404 | 10,000 | P 366,630.00 |
|  |  |  |  | Total | 45,000 | P 1,681,869.75 |
|  | N. Viscaya |  | Bayongbong | 288 | 25,000 | P 733,713.75 |
|  |  |  | Bagabag | 313 | 27,000 | P 821,124.51 |
|  |  |  |  | Total | 52,000 | P1,554,838.26 |
|  | Quirino |  | Maddela | 390 | 1,000 | P 35,392.50 |
|  |  |  | Diffun | 355 | 4,000 | P 135,036.00 |
|  |  |  | Cabarroguis | 362 | 11,000 | P 361,366.50 |
|  |  |  |  | Total | 16,000 | P 531,795.00 |
|  | Allacapan |  | Matukay | 595 | 7,000 | P 376,703.25 |
|  | Ifugao |  | Potia | 353 | 3,000 | P 96,104.25 |
|  | Tabuk |  | Bulanao, Tabuk | 498 | 6,000 | P 271,161.00 |
|  |  |  |  | Grand Total Region II |  | P 5,841,414.51 |

The minimum number of trucks required must be registered as "Trucks-for-Hire" from Land Transportation Office (LTO). The prospective bidder may bid in any or all specified lot/preferred destinations upon payment of a non-refundable application fee of P500.00, bidding fee of P2,500.00 and submission of a certified photocopy of the following basic requirements:

1) DTI business name registration, CDA Registration and/or SEC Registration certificate, whichever may be appropriate;
2. Valid and current Mayor's Permit and Official Receipt.

The issuance of bid documents, pre-bidding conference and bidding proper shall be conducted at NFA-CLRO, Conference Room, Cabanatuan City on the following schedule:

| PARTICULARS | DATE |
|---|---|
| 1. Issuance of Application and Bidding Documents | June 6, to 20, 2005<br>(8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Regular WD) |
| 2. Pre-bidding Conference | June 21, 2005 (2:00 PM) |
| 3. Deadline of Submission of Eligibility Requirements and Bid Proposals (Opening of Bids will follow immediately) | July 5, 2005 (2:00 PM) |

Eligibility criteria includes, among others that the venue of the prospective bidders largest single contract adjusted to current prices completed and similar to the contract to be bid, must be at least fifty percent (50%) of the approved budget for the contract to be bid.

The bidding shall be governed by RA 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations. For further inquiries, please contact the RBAC Chairman or Secretariat at NFA-CLRO Cabanatuan City at Telephone Nos. (044) 463-1167 or (044) 463-1168.

THE NFA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS THEREOF, TO WAIVE ANY FORMALITIES OR DEFECTS FOUND THEREIN OR TO ACCEPT SUCH BIDS OR TO AWARD TO ANY CONTRACTOR WHOSE BID IS CONSIDERED MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE NFA AND/OR TO THE GOVERNMENT.

(Sgd.) RUBEN J. RESIDE
Asst. Regional Director & RBAC Chairman

(PDI - June 4 & 11, 2005)

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**NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY**
Central Luzon Regional Office
Cabanatuan City

## INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID FOR GRAINS HANDLING SERVICES NFA REGION III

The National Food Authority NFA Central Luzon Regional Office, Cabanatuan City invites all interested Grains Handling Services Contractors to apply for eligibility and to bid for handling the movement of grain stocks and by-products in the warehouses, ricemills and other installations of Region III and to load/unload to/from trucks said commodities with an Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) for the year 2005 as follows:

| PROVINCES | LOT NO. | LOCATION OF WAREHOUSE | VOLUME TO BE HANDLED (IN BAGS) | APPROVED BUDGET FOR THE CONTRACT |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Aurora | I | GID-Baler | 111,600 | 441,936.00 |
|  |  | Bartolome-Ma. Aurora |  |  |
|  |  | GID-Casiguran |  |  |
| Bataan | II | GID 1 & 2 - Balanga | 128,500 | 493,440.00 |
|  |  | FLGC-Dinalupihan |  |  |
| Bulacan | III | GID 1, 2 & 3 - Balagtas | 253,500 | 1,064,700.00 |
|  | IV | GID 1 & 2 - San Ildefonso | 308,500 | 1,295,700.00 |
|  | V | GID - Tikay | 210,000 | 882,000.00 |
|  | VI | GID 1 & 2 - Sta Rita | 133,500 | 560,700.00 |
|  | VII | TLL Warehouses-Marilao | 330,000 | 1,386,000.00 |
| Nueva Ecija | VIII | Whse 1-13 - Cab City | 542,600 | 2,300,624.00 |
|  |  | Whse 1 & 2 - Gapan |  |  |
|  | IX | Aliaga Whse - Aliaga | 136,300 | 577,912.00 |
|  |  | GID - Bongabon |  |  |
|  |  | Guimba Whse 1-2 |  |  |
| Pampanga | X | Sindalan 1 and 2 | 275,000 | 1,127,500.00 |
|  | XI | Del Rosario Whse | 140,000 | 574,000.00 |
| Zambales | XII | GID and Mango Terminal | 97,000 | 424,860.00 |
|  | XIII | Wawandue Whse | 40,000 | 175,200.00 |

The prospective bidder may bid in any or all lots upon payment of a non-refundable application fee of P500.00, bidding fee of P1,500.00 and submission of a certified photocopy each of the following documents:

1. DTI business name registration, CDA Registration and/or SEC registration certificate, whichever may be appropriate;
2. Valid and current Mayor's Permit/Official Receipt.

The issuance of bid documents, pre-bidding conference and bidding proper shall be conducted at NFA-CLRO, Conference Room, Cabanatuan City on the following schedule:

| PARTICULARS | DATE |
|---|---|
| 1. Issuance of Application and Bidding Documents | June 6, to 22, 2005 |
| 2. Pre-bidding Conference | June 23, 2005 (10:00 AM) |
| 3. Deadline of submission of Eligibility Requirements and Bid Proposals (Opening of Bids will follow immediately) | July 7, 2005 (10:00 AM) |

Eligibility criteria includes, among others that the value of the prospective bidder's largest single contract, adjusted to current prices using the wholesale consumer price index completed and similar to the contract to be bid, must be at least fifty percent (50%) of the approved budget for the contract to be bid.

The bidding shall be governed by RA 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations. For further inquiries, please contact the RBAC Chairman or Secretariat at NFA-CLRO, Cabanatuan City with Telephone Nos. (044) 463-1167, (044) 463-1168 and (044) 463-1233.

THE NFA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS THEREOF, TO WAIVE ANY FORMALITIES OR DEFECTS FOUND THEREIN OR TO ACCEPT SUCH BIDS OR TO AWARD TO ANY CONTRACTOR WHOSE BID IS CONSIDERED MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE NFA OR TO THE GOVERNMENT.

(Sgd.) RUBEN J. RESIDE
Asst. Regional Director / RBAC Chairman

(PDI - June 4 & 11, 2005)

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## TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

### CARS

**MITSUBISHI**

95 Pajero Local All Orig Well Maintained C 2 Appreciate 0917-8516885 • 643-3971 P530T

**TOYOTA**

ALTIS 2003 Model
1.6E at P565K / 1Own
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**JEEP/JEEPNEY/AUV**

AÑFRA TRANSPORTER DIESEL 2001 P180T Cell#0917-5080443

**VAN/PICK-UP**

RUSH SALE Owner Leaving 2004 NISSAN Frontier Pick-up diesel,manual,Silver 16,700km.Call Vita 840-2334/36

## TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

### CARS FOR RENT

Van Buses Coaster 5344003 6313456

CAR (M/T A/T) VANS (8-15P) T 9386198 4270344

CarsVans CoasterBus 422-9296

CARS/VANS/BRIDAL 8969956

Cheap Van 9330311;9348411

•L300 VAN TRevo 9139165•

P800/L3 9136710 / 4333682

URVAN 0917-5444721

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1.5% Auto Express 5221001-02

1.5% Car Loan 5344441

1.5% CARLOAN 373-6519

1.5% CARLOAN 788-0361

1.5% Easy Car Loan 4112547/48

1.5% Easy Car Loan 3748765

1.5% Easy Carloan 7815352/55

1.5% Fast Car Loan 6560140

1.5% w/oTaking Car 7228942-43

1.5% w/oTaking Car 3650974/75

2% w/o Taking Car 7262780

2% w/o taking car 7880183-84

2% w/oTaking Car 7221021

2% w/oTaking Car 8966630/33

2% w/oTaking Car 8959454

2% w/oTaking Car 3732081/82

2% w/oTaking Car 8870490/95

2% w/out taking car 5315577

2% w/out taking car 6567685

2% w/out taking car 5315577

## GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

### BILLIARDS

Sale/ Rental/Servce 8014494(046)-14771344 09179870097

### FIGHTING COCK

SWEATER KARACHI 09198409100

### PETS

ASZOO
DOG TRAINING 455-6212

Doberman Pups 4T 7268388

★PUGS/SHARPEIS 3725231

### WANTED TO BUY

"PROFESSIONAL & CREDIBLE"
LOW 5% INTEREST
BUY • SELL • PAWN
SWISS WATCHES
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SECONDO AYALA CENTER-8940282
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WE BUY AT HIGH PRICE
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BUY • SELL • PAWN
ROLEX+OTHERS
& OTHER SWISS WATCHES
DIAMONDS / JEWELRY
HI-APPRAISAL/FAST CASH
REPAIR/POLISH ANY WATCH
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### MISCELLANEOUS

FOOD CART STAINLESS P27T 0917-8214935

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### ANNOUNCEMENT

LOOKING FOR STORE SPACE FOR BAKERY/BAKESHOP IN PARANAQUE, SUCAT, QUEZON CITY AND OTHER CITIES. FAX PROPERTY INFORMATION AND/OR RENT REQUIREMENTS TO 7321723 OR CALL 7317015

### LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the deceased Felicidad Rasco Tam was the subject of extrajudicial settlement by her heirs as per Doc. No. 40 , Page No. 7, Book No. I, Series of 2005 before Notary Public Luis D. Dictado of Daet, Camarines Norte, as authenticated by Roberto F. Bernardo, Vice Consul, Consulate General of The Phil. City of Chicago, State of Illinois USA on Feb. 11, 2005 as per OR #2969810 , Service #3753 as per Doc No. 644 . PageNo. 25 Series of 2005 and Angelo S. Macalangay, M.D. Honorary Consul General, Phil. Honorary Consulate, City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, USA, Feb. 22, 2005 as per Doc. No. 465, Series of 2005, Or.No. 2726866
(PDI- May 28, June 4 & 16, 2005)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late CATALINA JAVIER was extrajudicially settled among her heirs as per Doc. No. 93, Page No. 21, Book No. 93, Series of 2005 before Notary Public Atty. Domingo Tejero of Pasig City.
(PDI-May 21, 28 & June 4, 2005)

### NOTICE OF LOSS

Alabang Country Club Cert. #A-1917 Issued to Bernardo B. Trinidad June 4, 11, 18, 2005

## INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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RTW Consign 09178830002

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## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### MALE

Agriculturist, Farm Head, Animal Husbandry Broiler, Broiler Poultry Boy,Pahinante preferably all w/ exp 6818696

### FEMALE

Massage/Facial Aindant 631-3495

Nurse Single Stay-In 5798249

PRE-SCHOOL TEACHER 941-4361

URGENT FEMALE ACCOUNTANT COMP.LITERATE LOOK FOR 952-6240 / 952-2510

### MALE/FEMALE

1. TECHNICAL SALES MANAGER w/knowledge and exp. In Water Treatment
2. SALES ENGINEERS
•Fax application/resume to 868-6029•

BSP•BSN•PT•MT
Any Allied Health Grads up to P45T/ Mo! 8927828

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### MALE/FEMALE

ACCOUNTING CLERK
PAYROLL CLERK
INVENTORY CLERK
SECRETARY
Female at least 1year exp
Computer Literate
Apply at 437-D A.Juan St.
San Juan or call 7251114

CAREGIVER 5280722

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Needs Business Reseller
High profits
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IMMEDIATE HIRING
CALL CTR AGENTS
20-45yo fluent in English coll level/grads any course.
Bring resume @ Unit E 1675 Rizalina 2 Building Quezon Avenue, Quezon City.
email:manos@mozcom.com
4112630 / 9208328 / 9209857

OFFICE STAFF [illegible] ELLEN

---

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

## SALES & MARKETING STAFF

Free training with allowance shall be given, plus an opportunity to earn at least P20,000.00 a month for successful applicants.

## ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT

- Female, BSA graduate, single, not more than 28 years old
- Proficient in manual and automated accounting systems
- Minimum of one (1) year work experience specializing in Cost Accounting or equivalent
- Can work under pressure, with minimal supervision

## MOTORIZED MESSENGER

- Male, not more than 35 years old/preferably single;
- Candidate must possess at least a Vocational Diploma/Short Course Certificate or College Level in any field;
- Knows how to drive motorcycle & other motor vehicles;
- Must have a valid driver's license;
- At least with 2 years experience as a motorized messenger.

Qualified applicants may submit their resumé,
TOR & 2x2 pictures at:

**3/F JR Bldg., 1520 Quezon Ave., South Triangle, Quezon City,**
**or fax to 371-2617 or e-mail to banffrealty@yahoo.com**

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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
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## AUDITOR

**Qualifications:**

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- At least 1 year supervisory / management experience
- Knowledge of Gen. Accounting & Auditing Principles & Procedures
- Knowledge of Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing
- Knowledge of Financial Data Analysis, Taxation & Labor Laws
- Analytical Skills, Team Player
- Can promote & implement appropriate process improvements, leadership skills

**Responsibilities:**

- Performs audit procedure, organizes working papers and communicate reports based on results of audit examinations
- Responsible for assisting in identifying risk, evaluating controls and preparing audit plans/programs

## PRE-PRESS SPECIALIST

**Qualifications:**

- With solid layout and design skills set in a newspaper publishing environment
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- Understanding in color management systems
- Fluent in both Windows OS and Macintosh environments

Send your application letter and
comprehensive resumé
or e-mail to:

HR MANAGEMENT SERVICES HEAD
Philippine Daily Inquirer
Chino Roces Avenue (formerly Pasong Tamo)
Corner Yague and Mascardo Streets,
Makati City
E-mail: recruitment@inquirer.com.ph

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Makati City

Fax No. (02) 895-8322

Tel. Nos. (02) 897-6682
(02) 890-1332

### NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the application of MEHITABEL, INC. with address at Sanson Road, Lahug, Cebu City and Tacan Road, Budlaan, Talamban, Cebu City for registration with the Board of Investments under Book I of the Omnibus Investment Code of 1987, otherwise known as Executive Order No. 226 as amended by Republic Act 7918, as an Expanding Export Producer of Furniture (Case Goods and Other Wooden Furniture) at a capacity of 16,200 pieces per year and with proposed plant site at (same as in above address) has been officially accepted on May 26, 2005 and is currently being processed.

Any person with valid objections to or pertinent comments on the above-mentioned application may file his/her objections, in writing with the Board of Investments within one (1) week from the date of this publication.

Issued this 26th day of May 2005.

(Sgd.) RUDY B. CAÑA
OIC-Director
Project Evaluation and Registration Department

(PDI – June 4, 2005)

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BROOKSLAKE GARMENT
MANUFACTURING CORP.
Block C #9 K, Porong Street, Punturin
Valenzuela City 1447

## One (1) ACCOUNTING STAFF

- M/F at least 25-30 years old, BS Accountancy, board passer preferred
- Minimum two years experience in Accounts Management and Financial Analysis
- Proficient in English oral and written communication
- Computer literate a must

## One (1) ACCOUNTING OFFICER:

- M/F graduate of BS Accountancy, 30 years and above, CPA board passer
- At least 5 years managerial experience in the field of accounting (Accounts Management and Financial Analysis)
- Well versed in government accounting and government procurement procedure
- Strong leadership and highly analytical
- Effective in English oral and written communication, Cantonese speaking an advantage

Applications accepted from Mondays-Fridays,
1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. only
You may also email your curriculum vitaé at
ireneb_ph@fashionexpress.com.hk

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MACTAN CEBU
INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY
LAPU-LAPU CITY PHILIPPINES

## INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

1. The Mactan Cebu International Airport Authority through its BID and AWARDS COMMITTEE (BAC) with office address at Mactan, Lapu Lapu City, invites all interested individuals, partnerships, corporations, joint ventures and cooperatives with at least five (5) years experience in airport vegetation control and maintenance works to register and to apply for eligibility and to bid for the project: VEGETATION AND TERMITE COLONY CONTROL AT AIRSIDE of MCIAA. The Approved Budget for the Contract is Php 5,260,409.02 for one (1) year covering a green area of approximately 220 hectares.
2. Interested bidders shall submit a Letter of Intent and secure a copy of Eligibility Screening Documents from the BAC Secretariat after payment of a Non-Refundable Fee of Five Hundred Pesos (P500.00) per copy.

| | |
|---|---|
| Issuance of Eligibility Screening Documents at BAC Office | June 4 to 14, 2005 |
| Deadline for submission of duly accomplished Application for Eligibility, Forms, Documents, Statements and Contractor's License | June 21, 2005 |
| Distribution of Bid Documents at BAC office during office hours upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P2,500.00 | July 4, 5 & 6, 2005 |
| Pre-Bid Conference | July 8, 2005 at 10:00 AM |
| Bid Opening | July 20, 2005 at 10:00 AM |

4. For more detailed information, the bidders may contact the BAC Secretariat at telephone no. (032) 340-2486 local 2050/2051 or at telefax no. (032) 341-4617.
5. Prospective Bidders shall signify conformance to bidding terms and conditions as required and shall ensure the same through proper submission/execution.
6. MCIAA reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defect or formality, postpone any of the aforementioned scheduled BAC activities (if absolutely necessary), assumes no obligation whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidders of any expense or loss that they may incur in the preparation of their bids, and to accept the offers most advantageous to the Government.

(Sgd.) M/GEN. ADELBERTO F. YAP (Ret)
General Manager

(PDI–June 4 & 10, 2005)

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**DON'T MISS THESE DATES: June 21 - 24, 2005**

CareerConference@JohnClements
Cinema 2, Ayala Center Cebu
June 21, 2005
10:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.

Kita-kita ta didto!

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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION & COMMUNICATIONS
LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE
East Avenue, Quezon City
E-mail Address: ltombox@lto.gov.ph • Website: www.lto.gov.ph

## MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 609-2005

29 March 2005

TO : The Regional and Assistant Regional Directors, Head and Cashier of Paniqui and Calinog District Offices and Employees Concerned
Regional Office No. 3 - San Fernando, Pampanga and
Regional Office No. 6 - Iloilo City

SUBJECT: **COLLECTION OF COMPUTER FEES**

Upon successful completion of the functional and other applicable testing, Certificates of Acceptance of an IT Facility (CAIFs) for the modules of the Motor Vehicle Registration System (MVRS), Driver's Licensing System and Revenue Collection System (RCS) were issued for Paniqui and Calinog District Office.

Accordingly, in compliance with the applicable User Acceptance Test Plan, you are hereby directed to commence the collection of the computer fees for the MVRS and DLS modules applicable to your respective sites, as follows:

| | Computer Fee | VAT | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| MVRS | P120.00 | P12.00 | P132.00 |
| DLS | P 48.00 | P 4.80 | P 52.80 |

All orders/memoranda in conflict herewith are deemed superseded.

This Memorandum Circular shall take effect after publication in three (3) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

For strict compliance.

(Sgd.) ANNELI R. LONTOC
Assistant Secretary

Approved:

(Sgd.) LEANDRO R. MENDOZA
DOTC Secretary

(PDI - June 4, 2005)

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MACTAN CEBU
INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY
LAPU-LAPU CITY PHILIPPINES

## INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

1. The Mactan Cebu International Airport Authority through its BIDS and AWARDS COMMITTEE (BAC) with office address at Mactan, Lapu Lapu City, invites all interested Contractors with at least Five (5) years of relevant experience in PABX Telephone System installation works or a Joint Venture of similar experience to register and to apply for eligibility and to bid for the supply, install & commissioning of PABX Telephone System of the MCIAA. The Approved Budget for the Contract is Php10,000,000.00.
2. The scope of works includes but not limited to the following:
   "Supply / Install & Commissioning of a complete PABX Telephone System (U.S., Canada, Europe and Japan "made" only) and its components at the Electronics & Communications Telephone Room"
3. Interested bidders shall submit a Letter of Intent and secure a copy of Eligibility Screening Documents from the BAC Secretariat after payment of a Non-Refundable Fee of Five Hundred Pesos (P500.00) per copy.

| | |
|---|---|
| Issuance of Eligibility Screening Documents at BAC Office | June 4 to 14, 2005 |
| Deadline for submission of duly accomplished Application for Eligibility, Forms, Documents, Statements and Contractor's License | June 26, 2005 |
| Distribution of Bid Documents at BAC office during office hours upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P2,500.00 | July 12, 13 & 14, 2005 |
| Pre-Bid Conference | July 21, 2005 at 10:00 AM |
| Bid Opening | August 3, 2005 at 10:00 AM |

4. For more detailed information, the bidders may contact the BAC Secretariat at telephone no. (032) 340-2486 local 2050/2051 or at telefax no. (032) 341-4617.
5. Prospective Bidders shall signify conformance to bidding terms and conditions as required and shall ensure the same through proper submission/execution.
6. MCIAA reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defect or formality, postpone any of the aforementioned scheduled BAC activities (if absolutely necessary), assumes no obligation whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidders of any expense or loss that they may incur in the preparation of their bids, and to accept the offers most advantageous to the Government.

(Sgd.) M/GEN. ADELBERTO F. YAP (Ret)
General Manager

(PDI–June 4 & 10, 2005)

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743-6505 • 743-6508 • Fax No 712-2782

## MSGR. JOSE EMATA FLORES

**of San Isidro, Nueva Ecija**

*Peacefully joined his Creator*
*on June 1, 2005 at the age of 86.*

His bereaved sister:

**CONSOLACION FLORES CELI**

Nieces and Nephews:

**SANDRA CELI & LUIS CEBRERO**
**- SAMANTHA, LUIS JR. & HORACIO**
**JOY & ANDOY TAN**
**- SAMUEL, BEATRICE & FERDIE**

Relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Sta. Rita Parish Church, Philam Homes, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Sunday, June 5, 2005 at the Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina after the 8:00 a.m. Mass at Sta. Rita Parish Church.

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*Only when you drink from the river of*
*silence shall you indeed sing.*
*And when you have reached the mountain*
*top, then you shall begin to climb.*
*And when the earth shall claim your*
*limbs, then truly you shall dance.*
Kahlil Gibran

*The family of*

## Renato "Rene" Pardo Hontiveros

**Roxas City, Capiz**

who peacefully joined his Maker on June 02, 2005 at the age of 82, requests relatives, friends and the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Divine Mercy Chapel in Roxas City.

Interment will be on Wednesday, June 08, 2005 at the Roxas City Roman Catholic Cemetery after the 2:00 p.m. mass

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**"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life."**
John 3:16

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## CELSO PATRICIO BONTIGAO

*Peacefully joined his Creator*
*on June 1, 2005 at the age of 78.*

His loving wife **Juliana**; children **Evan & Gemma, Vicky** and **Danny**; grandchildren **Ryan & Joshua Tyler** request your prayers for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the Aglipayan Church, Labores Street, Pandacan Manila.

Interment will be on Sunday, June 5, 2005 at the South Cemetery, Makati City.

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## ROSA SANCHEZ SANTOS

*Passed away in the Grace of our Lord*
*on June 2, 2005 at the age of 88.*

Her loving husband **Arsenio** (†); children **Romy** (†) & **Gloria Santos, Mert & Gilda Silangcruz, Paquito** (†) & **Meding Tangco**; brothers **Frisco** (†), **Eniong** (†); sisters **Bitang, Bae, Anching**; all her grandchildren and relatives request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at Chapel 4, Garden of Memories, Bagong Calzada, Pateros, Metro Manila.

Interment will be on Sunday, June 5, 2005 after the 2 p.m. Mass at Garden of Memories Memorial Park.

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**I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.**
John 14:6

We design **OBITUARIES** for free.

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HIS EXCELLENCY,
MOST REV. GAUDENCIO B. ROSALES, D.D.
**Archbishop of Manila**

The clergy of the Archdiocese of Manila; bereaved sister Consolacion; nieces; nephews; grandchildren; relatives and friends

**deeply mourn the demise of**

## REV. MSGR. JOSE EMATA FLORES

*who died on June 1, 2005 at the age of 86.*

His body now lies in state at Santa Rita de Cascia Parish, South Lawin Ave., Philamlife Homes, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Sunday, June 5, 2005 at the Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina after the 8:00 A.M. Mass at Santa Rita de Cascia Parish.

The faithful are requested
to pray for the repose of his soul.

**An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.**

*Always caring...* INQUIRER OBITUARIES

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OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS: ❶ Copy of Death Certificate ❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

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DEATH ANNIVERSARY • REQUIEMS • FREE OBIT DESIGN

# P1 million for you, from Export Bank

GADGETS, automobile and hobbies have overwhelmed a lot of individuals these days and that is urban living. Which means urban needs and wants. Nobody is to question that, just as long as you are able to finance everything you grab and swipe inside a store or a shop. The only catch is that you usually end up break-even just enough for your purchases and a little savings. Savings that you've been trying to keep for so long yet it is not enough to be used as an investment for a business a car a house or even just to travel locally and abroad. This means your savings should be in the right bank and we are talking about Export Bank. They will qualify you to win 1 million pesos for saving your money with them. Amazing isn't it?

When will your savings be enough to make your dreams come true? For how long have been planning to start a business, build your house; buy a car or travel… to name a few. If not all one of these is your long time dream and now it's just a deposit away. Export bank once again gives out another 1 million pesos. "Deposito mo 1 Million ang Panalo! Raffle Promo! Part 2" is here! Export Bank doesn't want you to miss it. Go ahead read on so will find out more on how you are going to win the 1 million pesos.

Your income won't end up break-even at Export Bank, since your savings will make you win 1 million pesos. All you have to do is to open an account from June 1, 2005 to February 28, 2006. It could be a Regular Current Account, Regular Passbook Savings, Statement/ATM Savings, ATM Payroll Account, Premium Savings or US Dollar Savings in any Export Bank nationwide. For the existing depositors, just meet the minimum increase in your Average Daily Balance (ADB) and you're all set. Which means just save your money at Export Bank and you'll get the chance to be a millionaire in an instant.

"Deposito mo 1 million Panalo Raffle Promo part 2" will not only give away just 1 million pesos, some lucky depositors will also take home 10,000 to 100,000 pesos. So there will be winners not just a winner. There will be three (3) preliminary raffle draws and a grand raffle draw. Besides the 1 million there will also be 1st, 2nd, 3rd and consolation prizes. For the grand draw and the 3 raffle draws there will be one lucky winner of the 1st prize, three winners of the 2nd and 3rd prizes, and ten winners of consolation prizes.

Where else can you find this kind of deal where you get to save and win 1 million, only in Export Bank. So what are you waiting for? Go ahead save and win. You may now start preparing for that dream. Start looking around for your favorite brand of car, or model houses and start the feasibility study of the business you're planning to put up, for your 1 million is on its way.

Visit your nearest Export Bank and open an account. Just see posters and flyers or go to the nearest branch for the promo mechanics and for your inquiries.

AGSB - RBAP
JOINT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
ATENEO GRADUATE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
and
RURAL BANKERS ASSOCIATION OF THE PHILIPPINES

**RBAP SIGNS PARTNERSHIP WITH AGSB**

To help improve management operations and competitiveness in the banking industry, the Rural Banks Association of the Philippines (RBAP) has partnered with the Ateneo Graduate School of Business (AGSB) for the continuing education and training of rural bank officers and employees. The project will see to upgrading and redesigning RBAP's existing training modules, expand their pool of speakers, possibly extend scholarship grants to deserving and qualified rural bank employees, use of selected Ateneo facilities and enhancement of the research and development projects of the rural banking industry. AGSB will eventually develop an MBA program tailor-fit for the requirements of rural bankers. Photo shows the contract signing for the development of the joint management program with (from left) AGSB associate dean Albert Buenviaje, dean Dr. Alfredo RA Bengzon, RBAP president Senen D. Glorioso and RBAP chair of the Education Committee Felino S.M. Angeles.

# Globe International Services introduces lowest IDD rate

MISSING someone in the US, Canada, or China? Longing to call your loved ones in Hong Kong, Malaysia, or Singapore? With the lowest IDD rate ever from Globe International Services, you can always stay connected and enjoy more time talking to your friends and family members in these destinations.

For IDD calls to any of these countries, G-Plan subscribers get 50 percent off the regular IDD rate after the first four minutes. For only 20 US cents per minute, you can keep in touch and talk longer with those who matter to you most. Rate for the first 4 minutes is 40 US cents/min.

IDD Rate guide: First 4 minutes - $0.40 per minute; over 4 minutes - $ 0.20 per minute.

Simply follow the regular IDD dialing procedure: (+)(country code) (area code) (phone number). No special registration is required to avail of the promo. For other destinations, Globe still offers its reliable IDD service at a flat rate of 40 US cents per minute anytime of the day.

With the new lowest IDD rate, Globe is truly the leader in international communication services. Call abroad now and enjoy longer IDD talk time, anytime with Globe International Services. To activate your IDD, call Globe's 24-hour hotline at (02) 730 1000 or 211 (toll free) from your Globe Handyphone.

**ISETANN PROMO WINNER**

Maritess Liangco, (center) of Sta. Cruz, Manila received her new 9 cu-ft Kelvinator 2-Door Refrigerator as one of the Grand Draw prizes of Isetann Supermarket's 'Shop Now! Get a Chance to Win Fabulous Prizes!' promo drawn last Feb. 19. Also with her are Isetann officials: Jovie Dimayuga, supermarket operations divisions manager (left) and Lolita Bonilla, AVP for finance (right). Like her, you may shop and get a chance to win at Isetann Department Store and Supermarket's upcoming promo '25th Anniversary Blowout!', where over P2 Million worth of prizes will be given away from May 1, 2005 to January 31, 2006.

A Tribute to the llars of
Marke Exc ence

**TERIYAKI BOY AWARDED MOST OUTSTANDING JAPANESE RESTAURANT**

The Philippine Marketing Excellence Awards Institute, the Asian Institute of Marketing and Entrepreneurship and the Sales and Marketing Magazine recently hailed Teriyaki Boy as the Most Outstanding Japanese Restaurant for 2005. The Philippine Marketing Excellence Awards 2005 was held in the Mindanao Ballroom of the Westin Philippine Plaza last March 30. This award recognizes the leaders of organizations of different industries who believe that marketing is the convergent chain in the business process to which all business decisions emanates. As Teriyaki Boy receives this award, the company has proven its competitiveness and success in the field of marketing. Photo shows award giving bodies: Dr. Felix M. Lao and Dr. Anacleto Fontanilla; Teriyaki Boy executives: Germin G. Espino, general manager and Ruth Litonjua, assistant general manager along with marketing officers Catherine Anne Paredes and Natalie Tarce.

**DBP EXTENDS P62M ASSIST FOR NASUGBU WATER SYSTEM EXTENSION**

The Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP) granted recently a P62 million loan to the Nasugbu Water District (Nawad) for the expansion of the water supply system of Nasugbu Batangas. The project will involve the construction of a pipeline system that will provide safe and potable water to an estimated 6,185 residents in Barangays Balaytigue and Natipunan. It will likewise complement efforts to further spur commercial activities in the area as it will also serve the water supply needs or resorts and commercial establishments such as the Peninsula de Punta Fuego and Terrazas de Punta Fuego. Photo shows during the signing of the loan agreement held last April 1 at the DBP head office in Makati City are (seated, from left): Mayor Antonio Barcelon of Nasugbu, Batangas; Nawad chair Daniel Villafranca; DBP president and CEO Reynaldo David; LWUA administrator Lorenzo Jamora; Landco Pacific Corp president Alfred Xerxes Burgos Jr; and Roxaco Land and Peace Inc senior manager Santiago Elizalde. Also in photo are the DBP account officers (standing).

## ProductFILES

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### Spice up your life with new Vcut Onion and Garlic

WHAT do you get when you have fresh air coupled with lush green trees and loads of Jack 'n Jill Vcut in Onion and Garlic? The best way to commune with nature! Whether you're going solo or trekking up with friends, nature tripping becomes one major adventure when you've got the latest addition to the Vcut family. Vcut Onion and Garlic is made from large, fresh potatoes sliced into ridges and covered with a unique onion and garlic flavor. Made extra tasty and extra crispy, Vcut Onion and Garlic will definitely make you want to keep munching. Jack 'n Jill Vcut is the all-time favorite natural potato snack that's sure to satisfy any potato lover's fancy. Bring it the next time you go trekking with friends or when you go out of town with the family. Wherever you go, Vcut is sure to add a burst of excitement in your life. So if you're looking for the snack with a bite, grab a bag of Vcut Onion and Garlic. It's nature's gifts best made into one appetizingly crunchy snack.

## Bits Clips

### Symphony Renditions at SM Makati

LAST May, it was the soothing sounds of Jazz. This June, SM Makati shoppers have more musical treats to look forward to with its new musical theme - Symphony Renditions, An Afternoon of Classical Masterpieces. Enjoy the lofty classics by such masters as Bach, Beethoven, and Mozart. Watch out as SM Makati kicks off with its first featured band, Soul Harmonie Ensemble, this June 5. Symphony Renditions, An Afternoon of Classical Masterpieces will be held on June 5, 12, and 26 at the Concourse Area, 4 p.m. and 6 p.m., only at SM Makati.

### PRSP holds General Membership meeting

THE PUBLIC Relations Society of the Philippines (PRSP), headed by its president Milen de Quiros, will convene its General Membership meeting on Tuesday, June 7, from 6 to 10 p.m. at the Dasmariñas Room of the Hotel Intercontinental in Makati. The PRSP has invited Philippine Daily Inquirer columnist Conrad Banal, Jessica Soho of GMA Network News and Public Affairs, and Shiela Coronel of the Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism to speak on "Ethics in Media Relations: Truth or Favor." The The PRSP will also launch the 2005 National PR Congress and will announce what's in store for the Society, in particular the activities lined up for professional development, social outreach, and special projects. For particulars, you may contact the PRSP Secretariat at 638-0010 and 12 and look for Sonia or Ruth.

### Earn shopping money when calling IDD/NDD

JUST in time for the school opening, BayanTel is giving away free SM gift certificates to residential subscribers just by making NDD or IDD calls to their loved ones. Subscriber is entitled to free SM Gift Certificates for a minimum worth of NDD or IDD calls to a landline or to a cellphone reflected in their June and July 2005 Statement of Accounts: a. P 200 worth of SM Gift Certificate for P650 worth of NDD calls; b. P 300 worth of SM Gift Certificate for P850 worth of IDD calls. To avail, simply present your paid statement of account for the month of June or July together with a proof of payment /official receipt, promo flyer and any valid ID to any Bayan Center in Metro Manila. The SM gift certificates are available for redemption until Sept. 30, and can be availed by Metro Manila residential subscribers only.

### Leaders call for media transformation

THE UNITED Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization National Commission (Unacom) through its communication committee, in cooperation with the Asian Institute of Journalism and Communication, recently launched the "Advocacy Project for Media Transformation." This is part of a growing movement clamoring for a media industry that helps build the nation and serves public interest, said Unacom communication committee chair Dr. Florangel Rosario Braid. Initially, the project will involve convening sectoral committees to propose and initiate specific strategies for project implementation, said AIJC president Dr. Rogelio Cuyno. AIJC serves as project secretariat. Among those who attended the project launch held last April 26 were leaders from media, advertising and the academe, including Fr. James Reuter, Manuel Quezon III, JJ Calero, Yoly Ong, Bob Garon, Norma Japitana and Cheche Lazaro.

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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
SUGAR REGULATORY ADMINISTRATION
North Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City
P.O. Box 70, U.P. Diliman, Quezon City
TIN 000-784-336-00

## INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA) through its Bidding and Awards Committee (BAC) invites interested parties to apply for eligibility and to bid for the supply of:

**35,000 bags UREA FERTILIZER**
Commercial Grade – 45-0-0
Packed in 50-kilo bags lined with plastic
for Sugar-ACEF Related Projects
To be delivered to BAIS-URSUMCO MDDFI, Negros Oriental
Approved Budget for the Contract – Php 22,929,850.00

*AMENDED
Commercial Grade – 46-0-0

**Schedule of Bidding Activities**

| | |
|---|---|
| Issuance of Eligibility & Bidding Documents | May 30, 2005 – June 17, 2005<br>7:30 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.<br>SRA Bidding Secretarial<br>3rd Floor Annex Building<br>Sugar Regulatory Administration<br>North Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City<br>for non-refundable fee of Php 2,000.00 |
| Pre-Bid Conference | June 22, 2005<br>9:00 A.M.<br>Training Room, Sugar Regulatory Board<br>North Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City |
| Submission & Opening of Eligibility and Bid Envelopes | July 4, 2005<br>9:00 A.M.<br>Training Room, Sugar Regulatory Administration<br>North AVenue, Diliman, Quezon City |

For particulars, please contact .
The Bidding Secretariat –Telephone No. 929-68-37

All particulars relative to the Eligibility, Bid bond, Pre-bid Conference, Bid Evaluation and Award of Contracts shall be governed by the provisions of R.A 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations and other applicable government rules and regulations.

The SRA assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidders for any expense incurred in the preparation of the bids.

The SRA reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defect or informality therein or accept any bid(s) or offer(s) which it may consider to be advantageous and beneficial to the government

(Sgd.) JAMES C. LEDESMA
Administrator

* Amendments/corrections in highlight and with underline

(PDI – May 28 & June 4, 2005)

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NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY
Quezon City

## NOTICE OF SALE THRU AUCTION

The National Food Authority (NFA) wishes to announce to all interested Farmer's Organizations (FO's), Retailers and other interested NFA licensed wholesalers/millers that NFA will be accepting sealed offers for the Sale thru Auction of 100,000 MT or 2.0-Million bags 5% and 15% brokens Imported Rice 2005 Arrivals.

| PARTICULARS | VOLUME (IN MT) | | INDICATIVE PRICE 5% BROKENS | 15% BROKENS |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Farmer's Organizations | 20,000 | Ex-vessel | P1,026.00 | P 970.00/bag |
| Retailers | 20,000 | Ex-warehouse | P1,076.00 | P 1,010.00/bag |
| Open to all interested buyers | 60,000 | | | |

The pre-auction conference and auction proper shall be held at 10:00 AM at FDC Auditorium, FTI Complex, Taguig, Metro Manila on the following dates or until the whole volume for auction has been sold/exhausted

| Pre-Auction Conference | Auction Proper |
|---|---|
| June 8, 2005 | June 10, 2005 |

All interested bidders/buyers are required to sumit the following documents:

a. Original and xerox copy of NFA license (retailing; wholesaling and/or milling)
b. In case of representative, a duly notarized authorization from the owner, partner, chairman or president that he or she is authorized to represent the business entity in the pre-auction, auction proper and all activites thereto.
c. Offer must be accompanied by Bid Bond equivalent to 10% of the volume bidded in the form of Cashier's or Manager's check payable to NFA issued by a reputable commercial bank in Metro Manila

Interested bidders may secure the terms and conditions starting June 8, 2005 at DMO OCD, 5th Floor, National Food Authority, Matimyas Bldg., 101 E. Rodriguez Sr. Ave., Q.C. from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. For any inquiries, please contact Ms. Espie Tecson at tel. nos. 712-15-72 and 712-17-08.

Bid documents will be available on June 8, 2005 to qualified bidders/offerors upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P2,000 for FO's/Retailers and P5,000.00 for all interested buyers.

The National Food Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any formality thereof, and to accept only such bids that are advantageous to the Agency.

(Sgd.) CONRADO DL IBANEZ
Assistant Administrator and
Chairman, Disposition

(PDI – June 2 & 4, 2005)

# Pre-need industry posts 24% drop in sales

**By Elizabeth L. Sanchez**

THE PRE-NEED insurance industry has reported a 24-percent decline in sales last April from year-ago level due largely to the uncertainty brought about by the financial woes suffered by some of its key players.

A Securities and Exchange Commission report showed that education plans were the hardest hit among the pre-need products offered by the industry.

The report showed a 57.5-percent drop in the sales of education plans last April to P472.5 million from P1.11 billion in the same month last year.

Sales of pension plans also dipped 6.56 percent to P1.44 billion from P1.54 billion last year.

Life plans, also known as memorial plans, bucked the trend as this segment managed to post an 18.8-percent increase in sales last April to P309.27 million from P260.3 million last year.

The number of plans sold across all segments of the industry sank 25.2 percent to 33,252.

Total education plans sold in April declined 60.9 percent to 4,352 while the number of pension plans sold slid 37.2 percent to 16,074.

The number of life plans sold grew 66 percent to 16,074.

"People don't associate life plans so much with the problems of the traditional education plans," said Miguel Vazquez, president of the Philippine Federation of Pre-Need Plans Inc.

For the first four months of the year, total sales fell 19.8 percent to P9.16 billion from P11.42 billion in the same period last year. In the same period, sales of education plans dropped by 30 percent drop in education plans while pension plans sale declined by 32 percent.

The following were the top sellers of education plans during the four-month period: Philam Plans Inc. (P1.38 billion), Berkley International Plans (P568.19 million), Prudentialife Plans Inc. (P278.05 million) and Loyola Plans Consolidated Inc. (P210.54 million).

For April alone, top education plan providers were Berkley (P146.7 million), Philam Plans (P116 million) and Prudentialife (P62.3 million).

In the life plans segment, Prudentialife grabbed the lion's share from January to April at P810 million followed by St.Peter Life Plans with P630 million. For the month of April, St. Peter Life emerged the no. 1 with P181.98 million in sales. Prudentialife was a far second, recording P34.8 million for the same month.

For pension plans, Prudentialife cornered the bulk of the market amounting to P688 million, followed by Philam Plans at P230 million. For the four-month period, Prudentialife registered P1.2 billion in sales, while Philam Plans posted P792.7 million.

Lifetime Plans Inc., whose certificate of incorporation was revoked by the SEC, registered P539.4 million in sales from January to April and P107.82 million in April, alone.

# DTI starts campaign to promote seaweed industry

**By Ronnel W. Domingo**

THE DEPARTMENT of Trade and Industry yesterday said it had entered into an agreement with a New Jersey-based consulting group in an effort to promote the local seaweed industry through an eco-tourism program that would cover six coastal areas in the country.

At the same time, the DTI said that exports of seaweeds reached $35.87 million in 2004, while that of carrageenan amounted to $53.77 million.

Industry data show that seaweed production has been increasing from 84,000 metric tons in 1997 to 127,693 MT in 2003.

Trade Undersecretary Thomas G. Aquino said the the Bureau of Export Trade Promotion (BETP) was collaborating with the Seaweed Industry Association of the Philippines (SIAP) and the proponents of the Sustainable Coastal Tourism in Asia (Scotia)-Philippines to promote economic development, protect the long-term viability of delicate coastal and marine areas and create livelihood opportunities in the countryside.

Funded by the United States Agency for International Development, the Scotia project is patterned after the successful government-private voluntary eco-tourism programs.

New-Jersey-based Louis Berger Group Inc., one of the world's leading consulting group on infrastructure engineering, environmental science and economic development-is the implementing agency of the Scotia project in the Philippines.

Scotia is focused on six projects sites such as Panglao Island in Bohol, Mactan Island and Moalboal in Cebu, Puerto Galera in Mindoro Oriental, Balayan Bay region in Batangas, and El Nido in Palawan.

Aquino said seaweed farmers would be the main beneficiaries of the cooperation. About 40,000 persons directly and indirectly benefit from seaweeds farming in the country.

He said seaweed farmers in Tawi-tawi, Jolo, and Zamboanga produce about 80 percent of the country's seaweed supply while the remainder comes from Central Visayas, Palawan, and Batangas.

"The DTI pushes for economic development that is balanced with protection of the environment that benefits many, specially in the (provincial) regions," Aquino said. "We know that for sustainable economic growth to continue, protection of the environment must simultaneously take place."

The official explained that the MOA focuses on minimizing the adverse effects on the environment of tourism industry operators like resorts, hotels, tourist agencies, and dive shops.

The pact also aims to strengthen the capability of local governments to safeguard the sustainability and tourism value of their marine and coastal ecologies.

Aquino said seaweeds and carrageenan were two of the resource-based products harvested in coastal and marine areas that the DTI was consistently developing and supporting to compete in the international market.

# Lifetime claims full compliance with SEC rules

LIFETIME Plans Inc., a pre-need company owned by the Yuchengcos, accused the Securities and Exchange Commission of partiality in acting on the case of the company, as it maintained that it had diligently complied with all SEC requirements.

In a statement, LPI spokesperson Samuel V. Torres said the SEC had failed to take a closer look at the firm's documents and ignored the submissions as constituting full compliance with the requirements set by the SEC.

Citing documents submitted to the regulatory body, Torres said LPI was deemed to have completely complied with all requirements as early as April 29, contrary to claims made by the SEC.

LPI was spun off from Pacific Plans Inc., which is seeking court approval for its rehabilitation plan.

In its April 29 letter to the SEC, LPI submitted a special audit report prepared and certified by Punongbayan & Araullo, and certificates of registration of motor vehicles, in the name of Lifetime, to which the vehicles were transferred as part of the spin-off.

The submission of the audit report on the "collection of other receivables," and "proof of transfer of ownership of transportation equipment in the name of the transferee-corporation" was pursuant to a February 15 SEC letter and an April 7 order by the SEC's company registration and monitoring department, he said.

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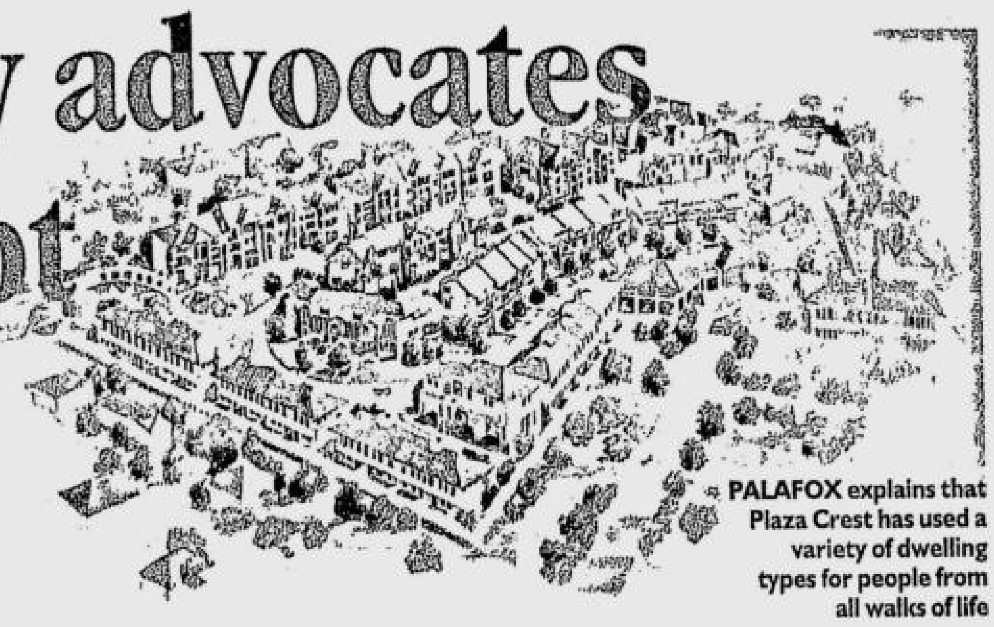
# PROPERTY

Editor Cesar D. Mangawang

# Upcoming community advocates new urbanism concept



**PALAFOX** explains that Plaza Crest has used a variety of dwelling types for people from all walks of life

Text and photos by Charles E. Buban

NEW urbanism promotes the creation of compact, walkable, mixed-use communities that don't require everyone to own and drive a car. Cars are considered harmful for the numerous problems they can cause within the community: traffic congestion, air and noise pollution.

For a growing number of master planners, new urbanism is the only way to design communities that "do less harm" to their dwellers and environment.

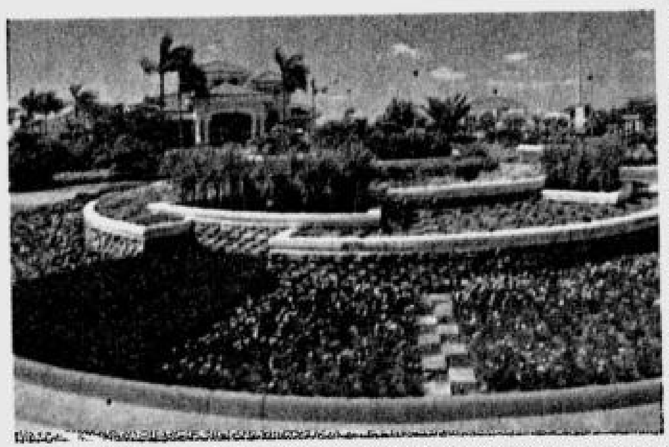
"New urbanism serves as a viable alternative since people have been dissatisfied with conventional suburban design for quite some time," says Felino Palafox Jr., the country's lead-

UPCOMING/B2-2

Prominence II

Main Clubhouse

One of seven children's playgrounds



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# A green house is a healthy home

**GREEN ARCHITRENDS**

*Amado P. de Jesus Jr*

A COMMON misconception regarding green architecture is that it is expensive to apply its concepts on small-scale projects and even just houses. People think that it is only practical for the developed countries and they cite that highly sophisticated "green" homes will not be within reach of the Third World's limited means.

Nothing could be farther from the truth! Practicality has always been a guiding principle behind "green" architectural practices. It is only a matter of finding the most practical techniques that will make a certain project "green."

In addition, green architecture is an effective answer to many of the environmental problems that plague communities all over the globe.

For example, not too many people are aware of the health benefits of a green home.

## Healthy home

The first basic feature of a green home is that it is a healthy home. By this, we mean that occupants do not get sick by staying indoors. In many cases, the air indoors is more polluted than outside air.

A green home has good indoor quality. It has very good ventilation flushing out stagnant air and pollutants that might harm its occupants. In short, it is bright, airy and cheerful.

Indoor air quality is particularly acute in bathrooms and kitchens with very poor ventilation due to excess moisture in the air. This in turn condenses on cold surfaces where mold is formed. Molds cause various respiratory illnesses.

One way to improve conditions is by installing large window openings or installing exhaust fans. Another way is to put ceramic wall tiles only in wet areas such as shower stalls and around the lavatories. A common practice is to put wall tiles from floor to ceiling. This has the same effect as a hermetically sealed bottle which can cause molds and a "stuffy" feeling due to lack of ventilation. By leaving many walls without tiles we allow the walls to "breathe" making occupants more comfortable.

## Electromagnetic field

A green house is kept as far away as possible from high-voltage power lines to avoid exposure to electromagnetic fields. This is done to protect its occupants. Studies have shown that people who live near these power lines, especially children, are more likely to contract leukemia.

A green home is designed to eliminate exposure to EMF indoors. EMF indoors is caused by many electrical appliances and devices that are used inside the home. Whether in the living room, the den or the bedroom, electromagnetic fields radiate and cause people to get sick without their knowing it. Electrical devices that are known to produce high electromagnetic fields are computers, microwave ovens and hairdryers.

The bedroom is one area where people are most likely to be exposed to EMF as these devices are located around the beds and extended periods of time are spent close to them. For example, using an electric thermal blanket means exposure to a very heavy dose of EMF.

An effective way to reduce or remove this threat in bedrooms is by positioning the electrical devices as far away as possible from the sleeping areas, especially around the headboard. Another way is by installing a separate electrical line that can be switched off when we sleep and allowing only a few night lamps around the room. A very effective way to reduce exposure to EMF is by creating a wire-free area around the bed.

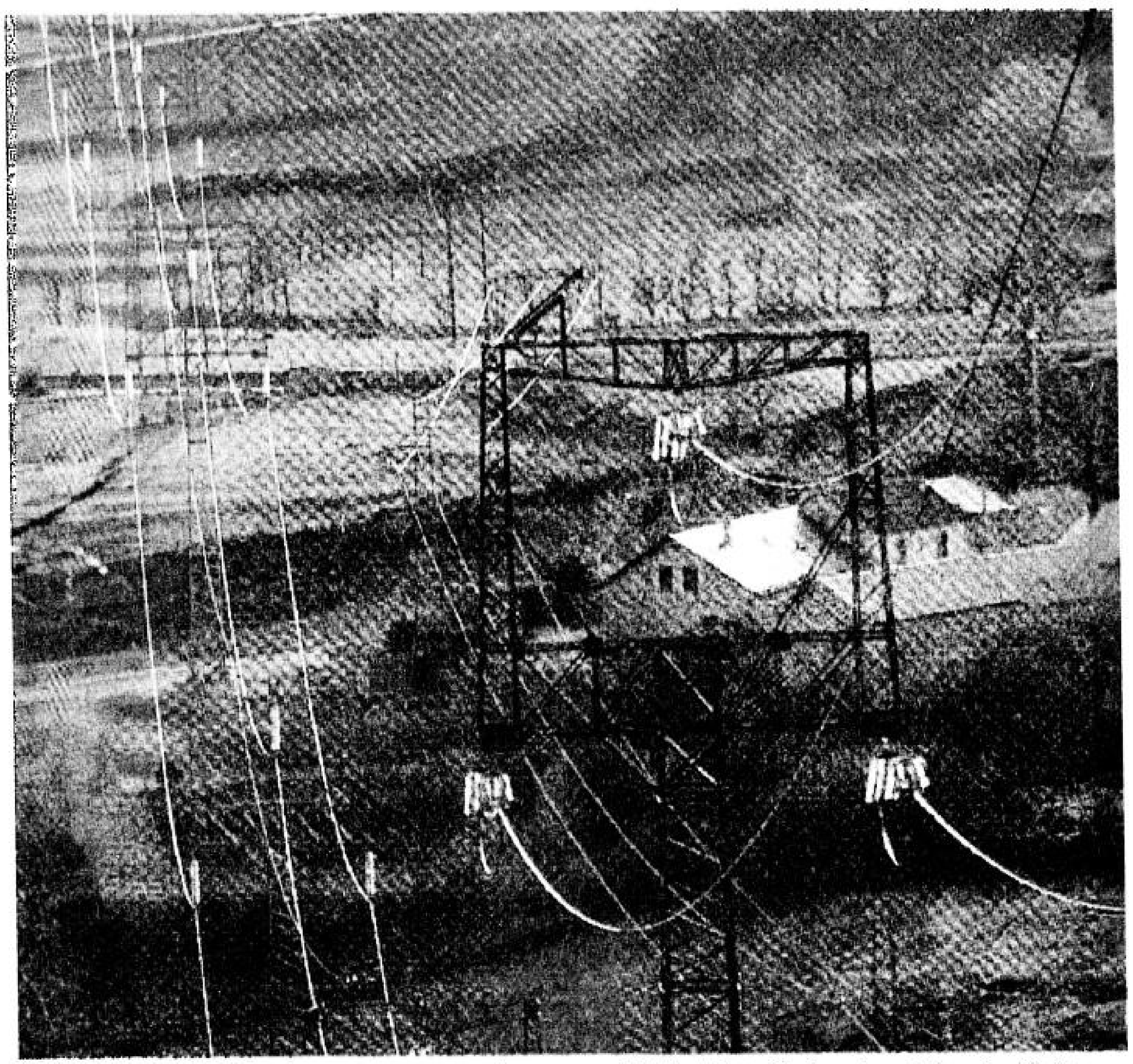
## Natural materials

A green home is constructed of natural materials. This means, materials that do not emit toxic fumes that may harm the occupants. Time was when people had to content themselves with noxious fumes from strong paints and varnish. Today, more and more water-based, odorless paints are being used and this may be the type that will be commonly used in the future.

Strong toxic wood preservatives that contain harmful chemicals are not found in a green home. Besides being a health risk, these types of materials threaten the environment when they are disposed in landfills because they leach and this eventually finds its way into the aquifer, or underground reservoir.

## Daylighting

Daylighting also helps protect the health and well-being of its occupants. Daylighting provides superior quality of light. Without sufficient natural light, people become subject to depression, gloom and sleep loss. The most effective cure is naturally exposure to more light. It is said that the room the sun does not enter, the doctor does.



**LIVING** near transmission lines, such as these, causes electromagnetic fields which studies have shown to be unhealthy for occupants living nearby. This is a good example of how the house and its immediate environment can have an effect on the health of its occupants.

## Noise pollution

Noise pollution is a big source of stress in today's modern world. This is why many big cities install sound barriers to shield houses near the highways from noise.

A green home can use living screens like shrubs, earth mounds and trees.

## Good design

Finally, the idea of a well-conceived green house design cannot be overemphasized. This can include flexibility, clarity in organization of the rooms, scale, proportion and openings that reveal landscaped areas.

A return to traditional craftsmanship can also contribute to the overall quality of a green house, rather than the mass-produced but poorly built houses that have sprouted in recent times.

*(The author is vice chair of the board of judges of the Asean Energy Awards and is a practising green architect. For comments or inquiries, e-mail amadodejesus@gmail.com.)*

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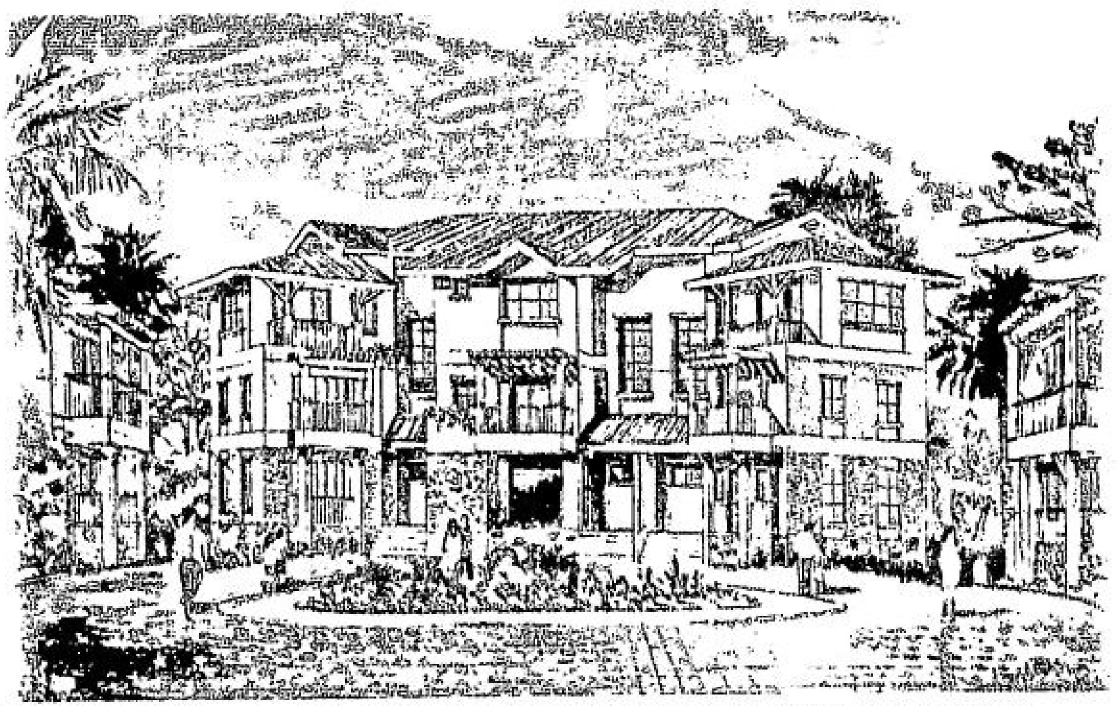
# Upcoming community advocates ...

From page B2-1

ing advocate of new urbanism. "This concept is about building communities that encourage people to leave their cars behind and go out on foot to socialize, relax, shop and play."

Indeed, this is how Palafox would like his latest project in Parañaque City to be like once it's finished several months from now.



**THE FOUR-LEVEL** garden apartments are perfect for growing families who require more space.

## Premier upscale dev't

"The Plaza Crest is being conceived as a premier upscale development that will provide its residents peace, security and ease of living," describes Palafox of this 2.7-hectare development located in Barangay San Dionisio beside Mary Queen of Apostles Parish Center.

Developer DO Plaza Estates Inc. partnered with Palafox Associates since the firm is the leading proponent of new urbanism both here and abroad and the fact that that it is the only planning and design firm in the Philippines that has made it to the London-based World Architecture Magazine's Top 500, Top 300 and Top 200 Architectural Firms in the World for the past six years.

In advocating the concept, Plaza Crest will offer a variety of dwelling types: garden apartments, townhouses and walk-up apartments—that will complement any family's lifestyle.

"These variety of dwelling types are put together at Plaza Crest so that the younger and older people, singles and families, the wealthy and the not so wealthy may find places to live," he explains.

**WORLD-RENOWNED** architect Palafox has advocated new urbanism concept in all of his planning and architectural projects in 15 countries

## More floor space, amenities

The garden apartments, which offer from 200 to 220 square meters of total floor space, are ideal for families wishing for more floor space and amenities.

These four-level units offer three to four bedrooms, kitchen and dining areas, three to four toilet and bath, maid's room with toilet and bath and two parking spaces with each unit facing a common landscaped garden.

While garden apartments cater to growing families, the three-level townhouses serve as a perfect private suburban home (from 145 to 164-sq-m total floor space) featuring two to three bedrooms, attic provisions, kitchen and dining areas, two to three toilet and bath, maid's room with toilet and bath, and two parking spaces.

## Condo living convenience

The walk-up apartment, on the other hand, mimics the luxury that townhouses provide with the convenience of condominium living.

The walk-up apartment offers two styles: a two-story unit with total floor area ranging from 129 to 142 sq m or a penthouse unit with total floor area ranging from 56 to 62 sq m with its own exclusive entry/exit from the ground floor.

Each style has two to three bedrooms, two to three toilet and bath, maid's room with toilet and bath, and a parking slot.

## Wide range

According to Palafox, by design, these variations in dwelling types will offer residents a wide range of housing sizes and costs within the same neighborhood.

"And whether living in a garden apartment, townhouse, or a walk-up apartment, everyone has equal access to the amenities in the community (including swimming pool and multipurpose playing court)," explains Palafox.

Aside from tree-lined avenues, landscaped roadways and pocket parks, Plaza Crest will utilize underground system for power, cable television and telephone lines, get its water supply from deep well (with water reservoir) and from the MWSS and Maynilad.

For security, a two-meter perimeter fence will surround the whole property with security cameras installed at the entrance.

## Developer

Developer DO Plaza Estates Inc. is a wholly owned subsidiary of the DO Plaza Holdings Corp., and an umbrella company of the Plaza Group of companies.

As the flagship corporation of the Plaza family, DO Plaza Holdings was a prominent industrial enterprise in the Visayas and Mindanao with interests in logging and cement production before it ventured into residential development in the '70s.

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# Developers, banks, industry groups join Creba Expo

HOUSING and other property developers, contractors, suppliers, national professional groups and other industry players such as the Pag-Ibig Fund, banks and other financing institutions are joining the Creba Expo 2005: "Our World Under One Roof" set at the World Trade Center, Pasay City, on July 27-30.

This was announced by Rosemarie C. Basa, executive vice president of the Chamber of Real Estate and Builders Associations (Creba) and exposition chairperson.

The expo aims to gather developers, investors, banks and other financing institutions and the public—buyers and end-users, especially families striving to become homeowners.

## Developer-exhibitors

Among the developers exhibiting their products are Alanda E-Realty, Almeda Inc. Benjamin Construction, Brittany, Cathay Land Inc., Crown Asia/Polar, Empire East Corp., Jardine Land, Central Country, DMCI Homes, Durabille Realty Development Corp. and Elysian Field.

Also exhibiting their products are Federal Land, Extraordinary Earth and Style, Fil-Estate, Fortune Star, Goldland, Heritage Park Homeowners Development Corp., Lexber Realty/Holiday, Macro Properties, M. Abubakar Consolidated, Magnificent Ventures, Masterpieces, JTKC Land Inc. and North Woods Realty Development Corp.

Others are One Asia Development Corp., R-II Builders, RJ Lhinet, Serve Quest, State Properties Corp., Sunrise Holiday Concept, The Shang Grand Tower Corp. and V.V. Soliven. More developers have made reservations for exhibit booths.

## Expo supporters

Supporting the expo with exhibit booths are China Bank, Land Bank of the Philippines, LBC Bank, Makati Foundry, Philippine Savings Bank and Social Security System (SSS).

Basa said hotels, suppliers, contractors and related industry groups occupying booths are Bayview Hotel, Boracay Regency, DSL Enterprises, Gaffor, Incuse Solutions, Jett Water Heater Co., Lorimar, Multi-Line Design Systems Inc., Nakayawa, Pars Builders, Paradise Chemical, PhilMetal Products Inc., Philippine Ecopanel, Puyat Vinyl Products Inc., Rapid Forming, Spurway Enterprises, Stoneworks Corp., Sycwin Coating and Wires Inc., Techno Asia and Unipac.

Industry groups supporting the expo are the National Real Estate Association (NREA), Philippine Association of Realtors Boards (Pareb), Society of Industrial-Residential-Commercial Realty Organizations (Sirero), and Society of Philippine Review Appraisers Inc. (Sprai). Expressing support are the two national business groups, the Employers Confederation of the Philippines (Ecop) and the Philippine Exporters Confederation of the Philippines (Philexport).

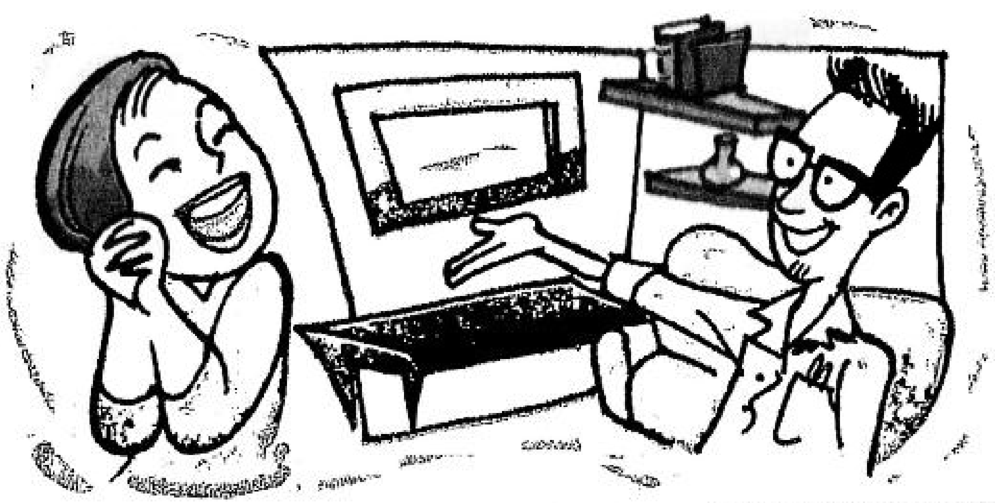

ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT G. RODRIGUEZ

# When to hire an interior designer

**INTO SPACE**

*Pinky Cruz*

HIRING an interior designer is much like getting a hairdresser: You may have to tell clearly what appeals to you, but later, she/he would know what works for you without being told.

Perhaps this is too simplistic. But there seems no better way to approach this undertaking than to be personal about it.

## Why hire?

First, there are myths on the hiring process. To this day, many are discouraged to undertake remodeling or overhauling their houses with interior designers. Why?

"It's too expensive!" and "My friend's interior designer just imposed on her taste and I don't want that for my house!"

What you don't know can hurt you really. These are the reasons you must go out and collaborate with one:

- A designer can help you get the most out of your space. A trained eye can provide endless solutions to your space-challenged rooms. Sure, you can do it, but you don't sometimes have the luxury for the trial and error from this exercise.
- It will stretch your budget. It will actually save you more money if you have the backup of an interior designer, availing for you access to material resources, quality suppliers within your budget, and a recommendation of right contractors that can do the job for you. This would ensure that the design of your dreams is correctly implemented.
- It's a good education to collaborate with one able designer.

## Do your homework

Probably one great fiasco I can think of in the hiring process is to end up with the wrong one. The key to a successful design commission depends on you.

- Research relentlessly on the right candidate through local newspapers, referrals, model houses and the Internet. Do not commit to one if you haven't interviewed and asked for credentials that can help you decide. This is one phase where you must not be intimidated to ask questions on fee structures, scope of work, budgetary concerns, designer's availability, etc. One tip: Don't rely on the resumé, look for the portfolio and actual works.
- Prepare! Do not be caught dead and helpless on the ideas game. Cut out pictures, postcards, and magazine clippings—anything that can conveniently communicate what you want done. It's a big misery to be living in one perfect interior not to your liking.
- Always demand a contract. This would protect you from needless headaches in the future.
- When all is done, go with your gut feel. After all, this is your house and your money at stake. Collaborate with a designer you feel you would be most comfortable with. You might not end up as best friends but at least you're getting your money's worth.

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## SUNRISE HILLS EMERYVILLE

# Second residential phase in a complete community

EMERYVILLE, the second residential phase of Sunrise Hills in Sabang, Dasmariñas, Cavite, showcases fun and family-friendly homes that resonate with today's discriminating home buyers. Isabella, a finely crafted cluster-type home, is at the center of this mini community created by energy-saving home developer Empire East Suntrust (Empire East Properties Inc.).

Isabella features four to six units, each with a floor area of 32.28 square meters. An inner unit has a lot area of 54 sq m while an end unit has a lot area of 72 sq m. The living and dining area, bedroom, kitchen and toilet/bath are all on one floor. The landscaped entrance can be used as a carport or a play area for children.

Like Casa Montecilla in Sunrise Hills' sold-out first phase, Roseville, Isabella features units that can be customized according to the homeowner's changing needs. With the addition of a mezzanine with a stairway, each home can easily accommodate an extra bedroom.

## Energy-saving technology

Isabella also showcases Empire East Suntrust's energy-saving technology: built-in roof insulation and concrete-and-steel wall panels that have an insulating polystyrene layer. Polystyrene is a breakthrough material that makes the homes soundproof, pest-free, durable and resistant to fire and earthquakes.

The polystyrene-insulated walls block heat six times better than ordinary walls. With less heat, homeowners use less electricity—allowing them to save on energy and money.

Other modern conveniences include a guarded entrance, concrete roads, ample power and water supply and commercial strips with a wet and dry market.

## Accessibility

At Emeryville, public transportation is available 24 hours a day. For professionals based in Makati, Pasay or Alabang, major work centers are an easy commute away. Upon the completion of the Baclaran-Dasmariñas LRT, Baclaran will be only 20 minutes away.

With its strategic location, Emeryville lets homeowners get to a variety of destinations with ease. Close by are Robinsons Mall Pala-Pala, SM Dasmariñas/Bacoor, Makro-Imus, First Cavite Industrial Estate, Gateway Business Park, La Salle Dasmariñas, Elizabeth Seton School South, St. Dominic Hospital and La Salle Medical Center.

## Affordable terms

With Emeryville's affordable terms—units go for as low as P5,500 a month with Pag-Ibig financing the 70 percent balance for 20 years—Empire East Suntrust gives a broad market of average income earners the opportunity to own a better, richer lifestyle.

For more information, please call Megaworld corporate communications department at 867-8826 to 40 local 280, 8678807 or fax at 867-8903 or e-mail at advtg@megaworldcorp.com.

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# First IT zone on Edsa

THE ROBUST information technology (IT) sector will soon have a new 8,000-square-meter base at the Edsa Central Greenfield District in Mandaluyong City.

The IT zone at the Pavilion and the Square will host the operations of Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) companies, including call centers, the fastest growing among IT businesses. According to Elmer San Pascual, investments and promotions manager of the Philippine Economic Zone Authority (Peza), Edsa Central is the first IT zone to be located on Edsa.

Aside from call centers, BPOs include medical and legal transcription, backroom operations for finances and even for human resources. Foreign companies outsource so that they can focus on their core competencies.

To make the investment climate very attractive, the government, through Peza, helps IT park developers like Greenfield Development Corp. in the form of fiscal and nonfiscal incentives. Once an industrial estate is accredited, export companies that will be locating there will also receive Peza incentives.

## Labor intensive

Before the IT zone in Edsa Central, Greenfield has worked with Peza in developing an industrial park, the Greenfield Automotive Park in Laguna where Ford Motor Philippines is manufacturing cars for exports in their 25-hectare plant. Compared to automobile, garments and other manufacturing industries that require much capital, IT is labor-intensive.

Pondering on the country's employment situation, San Pascual says that IT is at present one of the Philippines' bright spots, particularly call centers. "Our experience in Peza is that most call center companies, after their sixth month of operations, go to Peza and tell us that they need additional space for expansion."

In Metro Manila where there is limited space, finding a continuous five-hectare stretch of vacant land is difficult. In 2000, Peza amended its policy so accreditation can include not only the horizontal development of IT but also stand-alone buildings, provided that they meet certain basic requirements (at least 5,000-sq-m land area, backup power supply and security, among others).

With the Edsa Central IT Center, Greenfield is offering BPO companies lots of space and accessibility. The site at the intersection of Edsa and Shaw Boulevard is a transport hub for jeepneys, buses, FX, taxis and tricycles, and is directly linked to MRT 3. By doing its share, Greenfield District, with its retail, residential, business and manufacturing (Unilab) components, will also benefit by providing the market with other added services.

## Good reputation

Peza hopes that by 2010, the country would have been able to convince foreign companies to set up other types of BPO in the Philippines, aside from call centers. "When we bring business into a particular area, it creates jobs for the people there. Now it's up to the Filipinos to take advantage of this. Training our people is crucial and help from the private sector is needed," says San Pascual.

Within the next three to four months, the IT zone in Edsa Central will be completely operational. "Greenfield has a very good reputation in the industry," he states.

Says San Pascual: "I saw the blueprint of the plans, and I think a place that serves as a convergence point for office workers coming from different areas will be very, very promising. An IT firm operating 24/7 will really need a place where employees can have easy access to transportation and food stalls even in the wee hours of the night. The location of Edsa Central is very, very ideal."

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# Crown Asia's Amici - a Community to Entrust your Family with.

*In today's changing and trying times, young couples face life's realities with the resolve to earn a comfortable living and are motivated by their desire for a secure future. Along with the growing list of beginning young couples and parents both having to work for their children's future, comes the increasing demand for a community which meet their needs and lifestyles.*

*After ten years of developing well-planned communities across the country, Crown Asia understands each family's unique needs. Crown Asia will continue to fulfill dreams with the upcoming opening of its new community complementing the busy lifestyle of young couples while providing an ideal home for their children -* ***Amici at Daanghari Bacoor, a community 5 minutes away from Alabang.***

Amici's property preview was held last May 15, 2005.

*Amici*, the Italian word for "friend", is a masterplanned neighborhood sited near the conveniences of Alabang while maintaining a tranquil environment. Distinguishing Amici from other developments are its five considerations - rudiments revolving around the needs and realities of young couples:

**Security.** Every parent will only feel complacent about leaving their young kids at home when they know that their community is safe. For peace of mind, Amici will be equipped with (1) two entry gates which will remain guarded at all times, (2) thoughtful configuration of roads for easy guarding, (3) high property fences and well lit roads, and (4) controlled entry of vehicles and designated transportation drop off points to ensure exclusivity.

**Inward Design Format.** Landscaped pocket gardens interspersed between clusters will be placed to break the confines of a linear development. Amici's configuration will also allow interaction with neighbors, and kids finding more friends within the community. With all homes along the property line facing inward, added security is combined with appealing layout.

**Neighborly Home Designs.** Inspired by Italian architecture, homes which will be put up at Amici will evoke the feel of warmth and comfort. Four model homes will be available for varying needs and tastes. The "Our First Homes" series of Amici suit beginning couples and families:

**Annissa.** With smart utilization of space, the Annissa model features 2 bedrooms, a toilet and bath, family hall and a balcony with floor area of 60 sqm. on 112 sqm. lot area. Prices start at Php 1.6M.

**Annora.** Timeless Italian design is evident in the Annora model, with a floor area of 63 sqm. on 94 sqm. lot area. It features 2 bedrooms and 2 toilet and bath starting at the price of Php 1.8M.

**Allegra.** Combining function and charm, the Allegra model with a floor area of 74 sqm. on 94 sqm. lot area features 3 bedrooms, and 2 toilet and bath. Prices start at Php 1.9M.

Growing families with greater needs can also avail of a home from the "Moving Up" model:

**Amara.** Offering more than usual space requirements, the Amara model features roomy living and dining areas, and kitchen, 3 bedrooms, 2 toilet and bath, balcony, and carport. It has a floor area of 105 sqm. on 130 sqm. lot area and priced at Php 2.8M.

**Practical Features.** Homes of great value possess more than ingenious architecture or charming interiors. Given the busy lifestyles of its residents, the function and practical features of a home is more important. At Amici, the homes will feature family centered rooms, entertaining family and friends will no longer be confined in the living room. Master's bedrooms are made more spacious, and bathrooms will be enhanced with fashionable finishes and accessories.

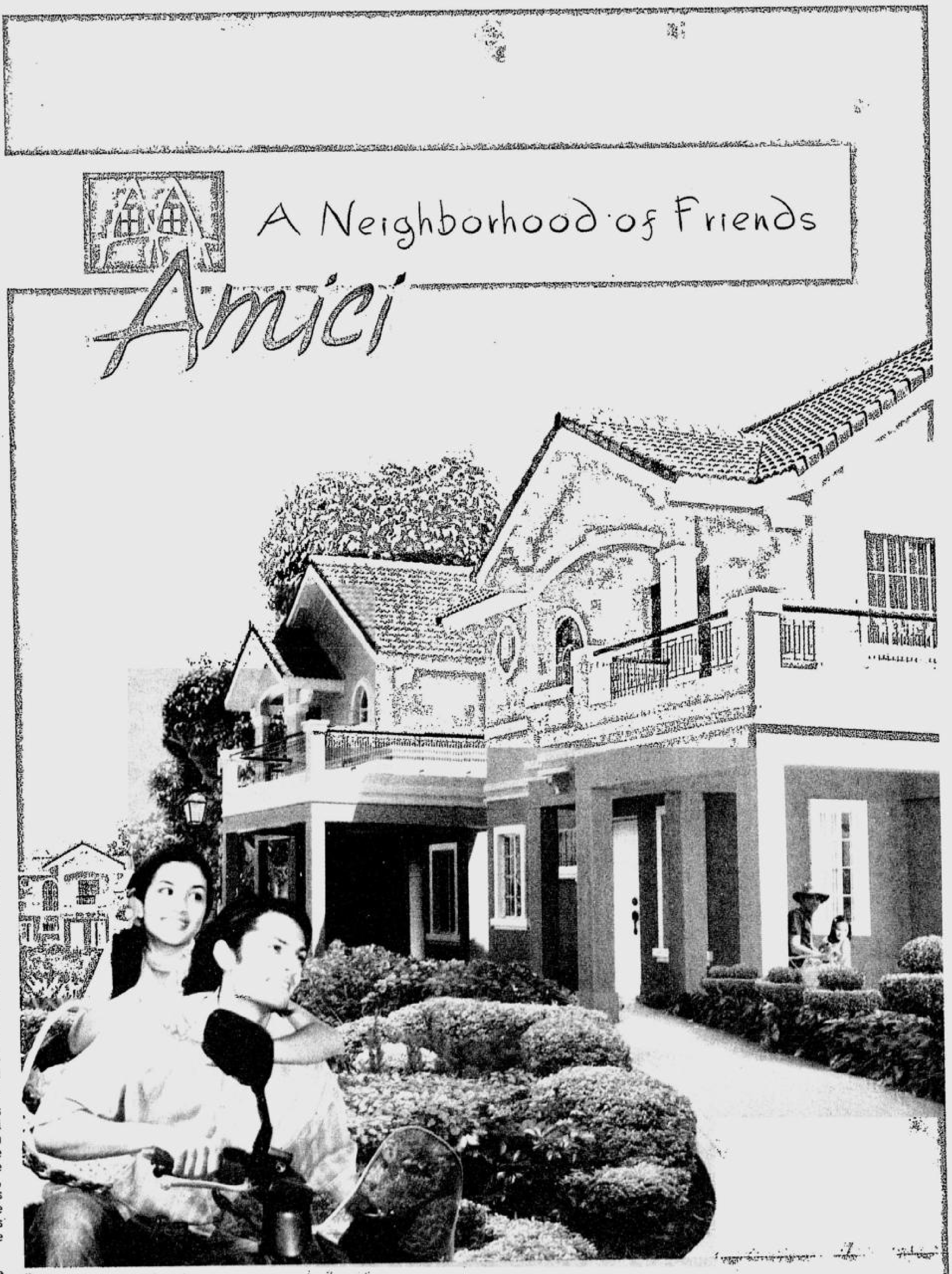
**Exclusive Amenities.** The communities of Crown Asia offer more than beautiful homes, that's why at Amici, residents can enjoy exclusive amenities for leisure and relaxation. Landscaped entrance will welcome residents at Amici, while gatherings and other activities can be held at the multipurpose village center. Pocket gardens and children's playground will also be made available within the neighborhood.

**Strategically located and accessible via the Las Piñas-Muntinlupa-Laguna-Cavite Link Road (also known as Daanghari), Amici is only 5 minutes away from Alabang.** Surrounding Amici are thriving communities such as Portofino, Southvale, the Meadows and Ayala Alabang.

Every project of Crown Asia is guided by the five core values they persistently adhere to: greenery, security, choices, serenity and attainability cornerstones of thoughtful and effective master-planning that give them distinction from other developments in the country.

Find complacence and the perfect companion in raising your children when you visit the secure and exclusive community of Amici. To know more about Amici, contact Crown Asia at tel. nos. 873-1614 or 871-3882 now!

*For announcement purposes only.*



Within the radius of **Daanghari Road, Alabang** will spring a community called **Amici**, the Italian word for "friend". Because like a true friend, Amici will give you and your family a complete sense of security and belongingness. Two guarded entry gates, high property fences, well-lit roads and a linear road will be put up to grace the community's interior. What's more, all homes along Amici's property line will be facing inwardly for better security and interaction among neighbors. This amicable atmosphere extends to its four model homes which will feature family-centered rooms and well accessorized kitchens and bathrooms.

**How to get there: From Alabang Town Center, take Daanghari Road, enter through Southvale or through Springville Meadows near Molino Road.**

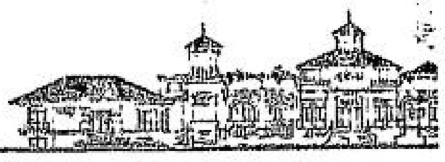
Crown Asia
*Your home of choice*

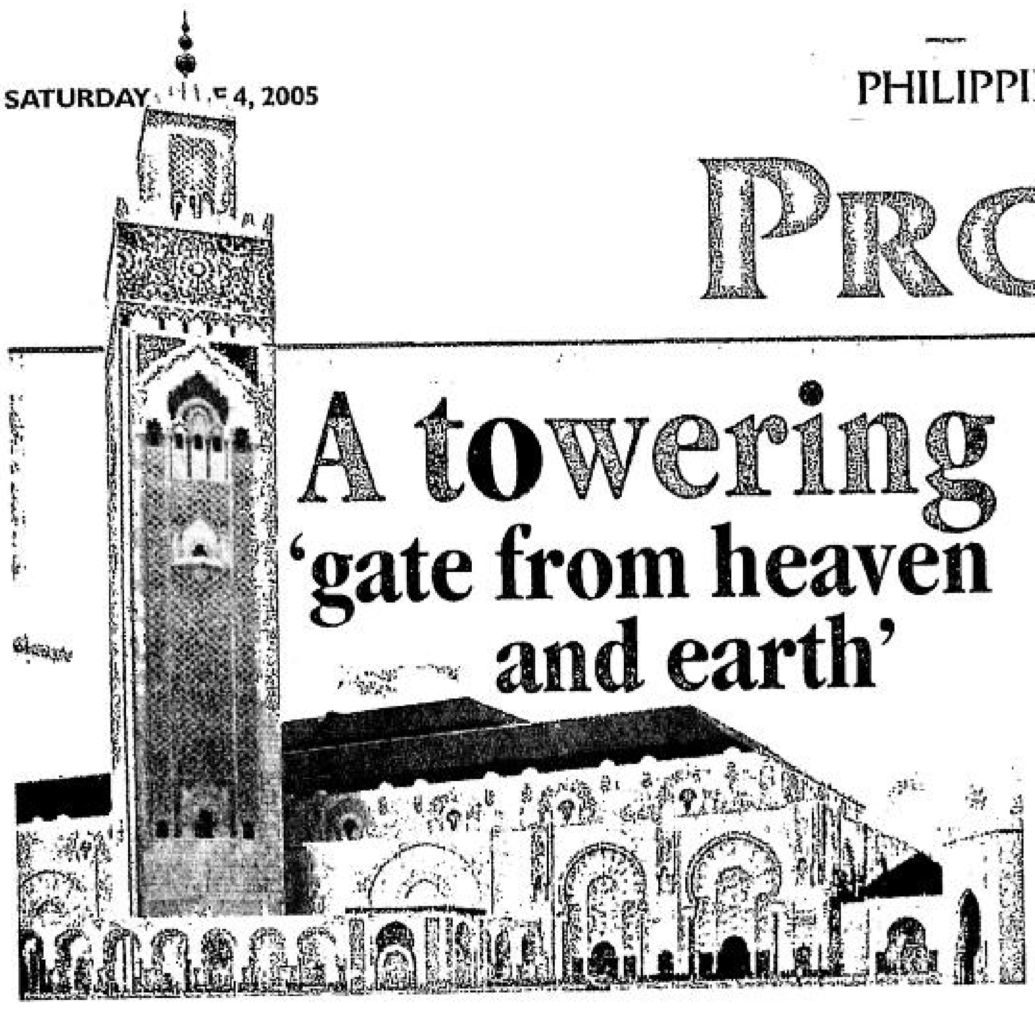
Know more about Amici! Because like a good friend, what it reveals will draw you closer to it!

**Call 873 1614 / 871 3882**

# PROPERTY

Editor **Cesar D. Mangawang**





# A towering 'gate from heaven and earth'

### AMAZING STRUCTURES

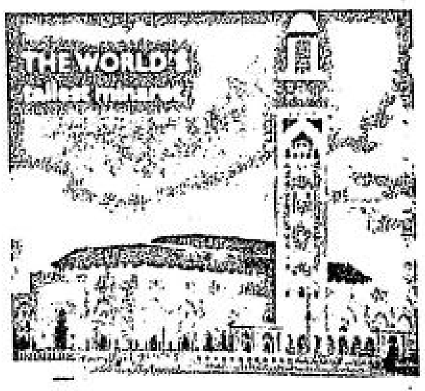
THE WORLD'S tallest minaret is that of the Great Hassan II Mosque located in Casablanca, Morocco. Standing at more than 200 meters, it can be clearly seen from miles around.

Often been described as "gates from heaven and earth," minarets are unique architectural features of Islamic mosques. Usually with onion-shaped crowns, these are either free-standing or a lot taller than its surrounding support structure.

Minarets have three basic parts: the base, the shaft and the gallery. The towering structures are usually used as beacons of light and as vantage points from where the muezzin can call out the people to prayer.

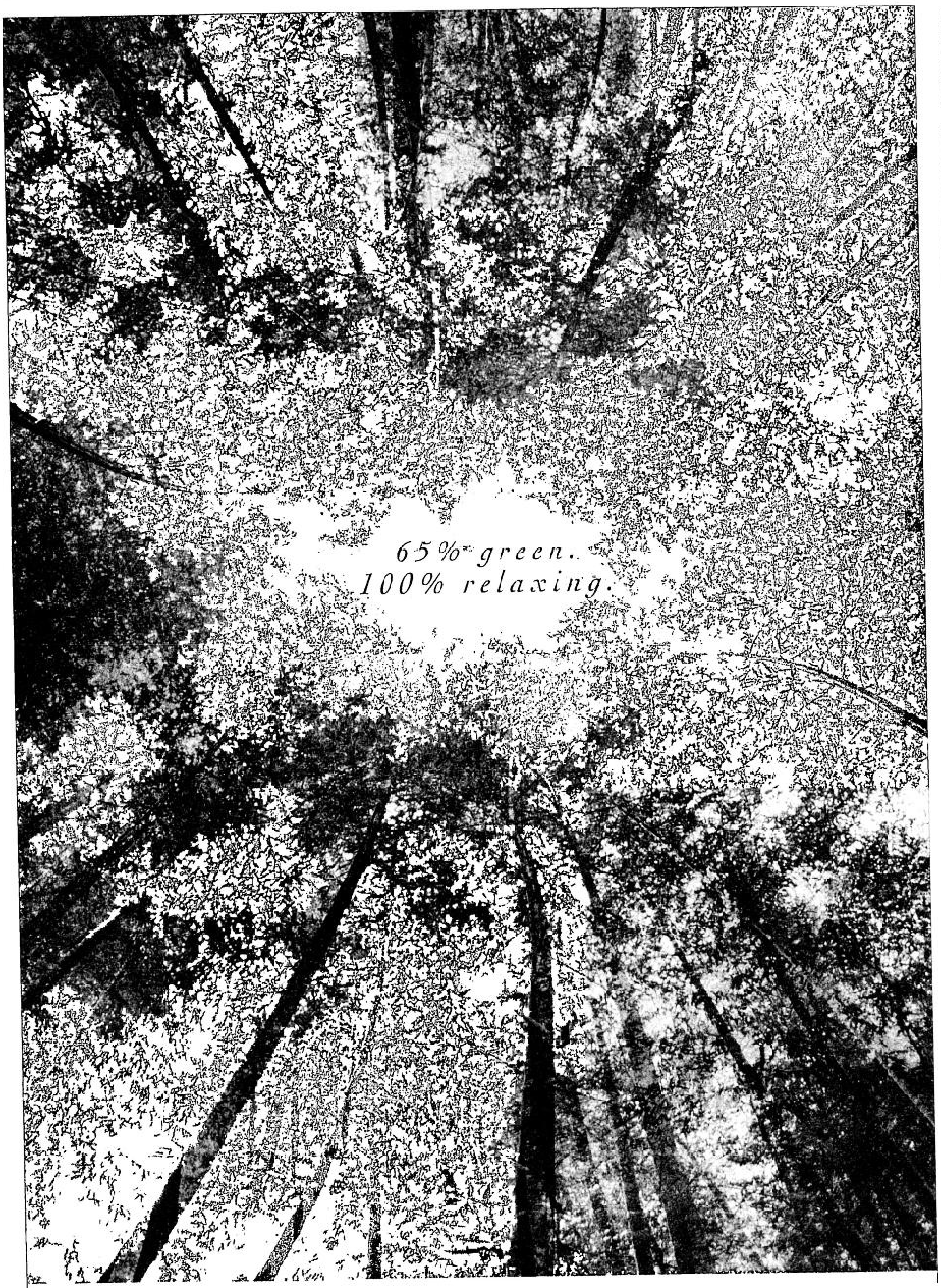
## Second largest mosque

The Great Hassan II Mosque, where the world's tallest minaret can be found, is also the second largest mosque in the world. Built for former Moroccan king Hassan II's 60th birthday, it was finished in 1993 and reported to have cost around $500 to 800 million to build.



The mosque, which stands on a reclaimed embankment, can hold 25,000 worshippers inside and another 80,000 outside. The materials used for the mosque, such as the granite, plaster, marble and wood, were all from Morocco and about 60,000 Moroccan artisans worked for five years to produce numerous exquisite mosaics, carvings, sculptures and the like.

The Great Hassan II Mosque is the only mosque open to non-Muslims, for a fee. *Dianne M. Villafuerte*



*SERENDRA: THE SUBURBAN SANCTUARY IN AN URBAN SETTING*

Serendra takes the concept of relaxation and pushes it several notches higher. Aside from greenery that covers about two-thirds of the property's 12 hectares, Serendra's extensive facilities list includes lap, lagoon, and kiddie pools, playgrounds, game rooms, restaurants, indoor play areas, and multi-purpose courts. There are walkways, jogging paths, and other common areas that promote a healthy sense of community while never compromising privacy. And as if that weren't enough to relax the work-weary professional, Serendra also helps eliminate commute-related stress by its sheer accessibility to prestigious schools, the country's premiere business district, major hospitals, and some of the world's best shopping.

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Model units are available for viewing at the Serendra Pavilion, 26th Street, Bonifacio Global City, everyday from 9am to 8pm.
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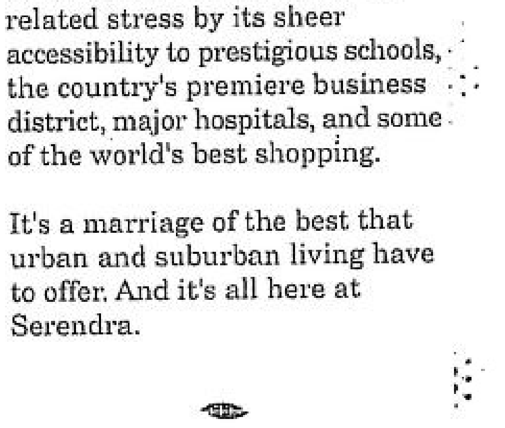

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*65% greenery also means only 35% of the property is available for residence (less in fact, since more reservations are being made as you read this.) Contact or visit us and make a reservation today. Call us at 888-0000. Not doing so might leave you 120% sorry.*

# Designing Brittany Corp.'s masterpiece

TWO heads, a wise man once said, are better than one. It is precisely this collaborative spirit that is responsible for the ingenuity of Courtyards of Portofino. A development like no other, Brittany Corp. skillfully sculpted 117 hectares of property on the Las Piñas-Cavite-Laguna-Muntinlupa Link Road to bring a piece of Italy to the Philippines. And behind this masterpiece is a team of experts with a shared vision to combine the luxury of the high life with the functionality demanded by the real world.

For architect Carmelo T. Casas, a meaningful cooperation is the key to a successful translation of a concept into a concrete structure. His team, Recio+Casas Architects, is partly responsible for the innovative features that make Courtyards of Portofino a truly unique development in the country. He generously shares the credit with Brittany Corp. and its other partners, recognizing that teamwork is the guiding philosophy behind his company and its resulting creations.

## Design process

"Our design philosophy starts with the clients and their requirements. There is no fixed philosophy or solution. We have to understand the concept of the client because at the end of the day, they will be the ones to present it, sell it, or live in it," says Casas.

"For the Courtyards, it took us a lot of time before we placed pencil to paper. There was an intensive research. Brittany Corp. went to Las Vegas to study projects of a similar nature. On our side, we researched a lot of books and the Internet on what the Southern Italian concept was about. The client was actively participating during the design process so we could capture what they really want."

The ideal situation, Casas reveals, is when the client is clear with what they want to happen. This leaves little room for second-guessing. Their participation lies in interpreting the concept in architectural sense.

## Inspired By Italy

Architecture, he points out, is one of the primary aspects of the Italian lifestyle that served as the inspiration for the Courtyards of Portofino. The terra cotta roofing, stucco walls painted in sun-drenched colors, and the abundance of balconies and planter boxes were among the elements that evoked a Mediterranean feel.

It is the courtyard, however, that served as the focal point of a typical Italian residence. It is the one area where the entire family can come together, swap stories, enjoy the cool breeze, and be completely relaxed with loved ones. That a specific area is devoted to nurture kinship speaks highly of how family ties are valued in Italy—a trait that is shared by Filipinos whose typical household often extends to relatives outside the immediate family.

Brittany Corp. president Jing Serrano discovered that the similarities between the Italians and Filipinos did not end there. The two cultures share a passion for life and a firm belief that living well is an art form. And these qualities were translated in the design of the Courtyards.

"The Courtyards is Brittany's masterpiece. The romance and grandeur of Italy, you can see that in the paved cobblestones, the walkways, the landscaping, the magnificent architecture. Even the courtyard in itself is very romantic. Italians, like Filipinos, are very passionate and very demonstrative, and that is something you will see in Portofino. We want to elevate the quality of living in the Philippines. You can't do that by offering houses that are built tightly side by side with hardly any room to breathe. Brittany doesn't do that," Serrano explains.

Keeping in mind the similarities between both cultures, the design scheme focused on creating an Italian-themed residence that Filipinos would feel comfortable in and not hesitate to call home.

""Having a theme, from an architectural perspective, creates a very strong community feel. What it did was to create an identity for the whole project," Casas confides.

## Rembrandt and Raphael

Named after art masters, Recio+Casas Architects were responsible for two of the four model homes at Courtyards, specifically the Rembrandt and the Raphael. These were the result of various renditions of the Italian courtyards concept with the location of this open area as the primary difference between the two units—the Rembrandt's courtyard is at the center while the Raphael's is at the side.

"Both are oriented toward the living and dining area. And because the courtyard is at the middle for the Rembrandt, it created an opportunity to have a guest room that is not part of the house. It is detached from the main house," explains Casas.

"For the Raphael with a courtyard at the side, its advantage is that it is very open to the outside. It is really more on the exterior part of the house already rather than the interior although visually there is always a connection between the interior and the exterior," he adds.

Another advantage of the courtyard design, he reveals, is that the space acts like a "spill-over" of either the living or the dining area—adding space to an area with limited capacity.

It is the creation of added lighting and cross ventilation as a result of the courtyards design that came as a pleasant surprise to Casas. The amount of natural light spilling into all the corners of the rooms left the homes bathed in radiance made possible through the attention to the most minute details.

"Even if we open only a small window, you can really feel the breeze," he says. "The light was great! Even at 12 noon with the sun really right on top of you, the light just filtered through the courtyard and created a lot of soft lighting which is very nice during the day time."

The secret lies in the ceiling height. Looking at the original Portofino homes, Casas immedi-
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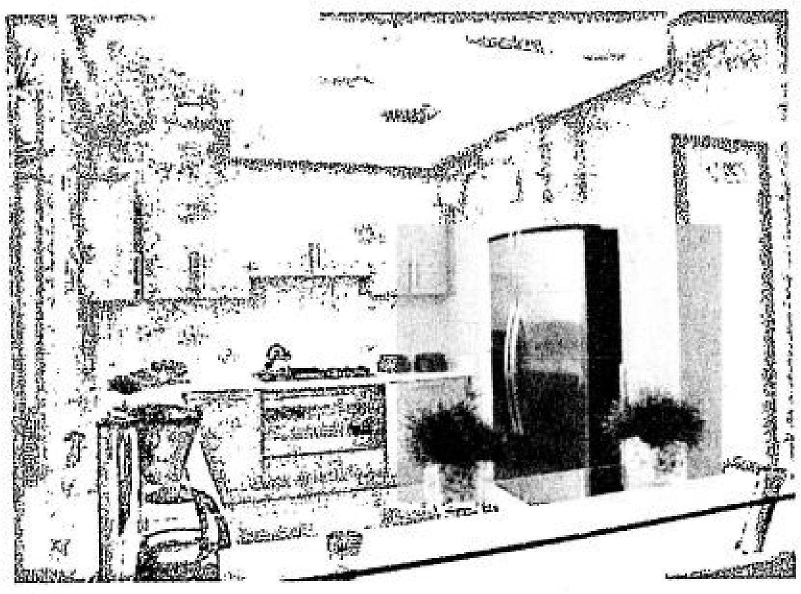
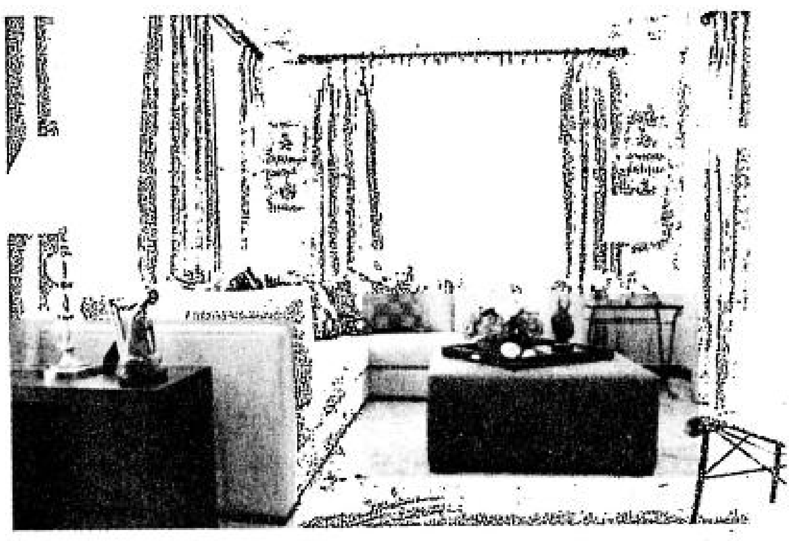
THE ITALIAN-INSPIRED, rustic exterior of the Raphael unit is designed by Recio+Casas. The stone-covered, mini tower serves

ANOTHER Mediterranean element is the mini balcony for planters.



COMPACT kitchen with a triangular layout looks light and bright with the floating ceiling and a glass counter on the side that is both decorative and functional. A niche makes it more interesting.



FLOOR-TO-CEILING windows maximize the natural lighting and ventilation in the living room. It contains traditional elements such as a recessed ceiling, baseboard and cornices. The interior décor is more casual—easy sofa, lacquered wood tables, lampshades in different sizes, a leather chair and a textured coffee table.

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# Ayala Land launches second tower of The Residences at Greenbelt

THE COUNTRY'S premiere real estate developer ushers in yet another milestone development with the tallest building in Makati.

Another masterpiece in real estate development will soon tower over Makati's skyline as Ayala Land Inc., the country's leader in real estate development, launches The San Lorenzo Tower, the second tower of The Residences at Greenbelt.

The new San Lorenzo Tower sets yet another standard in cosmopolitan living as it offers the ultimate in luxury, design and location.

Completely integrated within the Greenbelt Mall and Lifestyle Center and literally a few steps away from the Makati Central Business District, the new tower gives residents maximum convenience, as it is connected via a bridgeway to Greenbelt's myriad selection of restaurants, lifestyle shops and commercial and business establishments. What's more, there will be retail establishments at the ground floor level of The Residences at Greenbelt that are part of and fully integrated with the Greenbelt Lifestyle Center.

"Following the success of the first tower, Ayala Land once again introduces another milestone development with the new San Lorenzo Tower," says Ayala Land senior vice president Angie Lacson.

Says Lacson: "Similar to the Laguna Tower, the San Lorenzo Tower is located right at the heart of Greenbelt, so residents enjoy exclusivity while being in the center of the Greenbelt lifestyle. This time though, buyers of the new tower can enjoy more choices in terms of unit types and sizes. Our masterfully designed units also offer breathtaking views of the surrounding areas throughout the building."

## Masterfully planned

With units designed by some of the country's foremost masters, the new San Lorenzo unit boasts of 57 floors, making it the tallest building in Makati. The building layout was carefully planned in such a way that each unit is afforded spectacular, unobstructed views of Makati and its surrounding environment.

No other residential development offers such an excellent view of the breathtaking Makati skyline or the serene landscape of the San Lorenzo Village area as well as the scenic Laguna area.

## More unit types

The San Lorenzo Tower offers a diverse mix of units to suit the needs of today's accomplished men and women. Buyers can choose from three-bedroom units for families and two-bedroom units for young couples.

Those even looking for a second home can definitely find the perfect unit to match their preference and need. Single individuals who love being in the center of the Greenbelt action can opt for the one-bedroom unit.

Aside from these, the San Lorenzo Tower boasts of one-bedroom loft units with unmatched ceiling height, offering spacious interiors highly ideal for those thriving in the modern and vibrant Greenbelt lifestyle.

## Full-scale amenities

With the completion of the new San Lorenzo Tower, Ayala Land will also deliver the The Residences at Greenbelt's Grand Podium, a sprawling 5,000-square-meter area of full-scale amenities provided exclusively for its residents.

While the Grand Podium features facilities and open spaces for residents of both Laguna Tower and San Lorenzo, there will also be amenities exclusive for each tower.

## A worthwhile investment

With its unmatched luxury, superior amenities and outstanding location, the new San Lorenzo Tower truly presents a valuable investment.

Competitively priced and offering the best value for money, The Residences at Greenbelt's San Lorenzo Tower is another strong testament to Ayala Land's sterling reputation as the leader in the real estate industry. With Ayala Land's proven track record of excellence, residents of the new San Lorenzo Tower are assured that the value of their investment will be retained over time.

For inquiries on the San Lorenzo Tower of The Residences at Greenbelt, model unit viewing schedules and prices, call Lala Henson at 841-5522 or Amir Precilla at 841-5517. You may also call the Ayala Land hotline at 752-7000, e-mail ayalasales@ayalaland.com.ph or visit www.ayalaland.com.ph.

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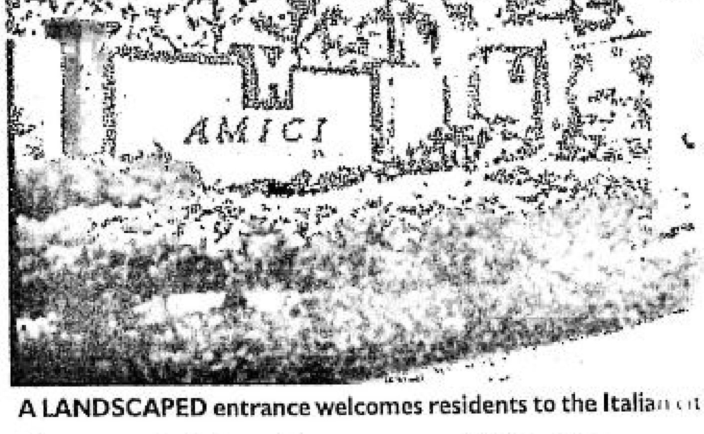
# *Crown Asia launches its newes*

AFTER 10 YEARS of developing well-planned communities across the country, Crown Asia understands each family's unique needs. It continues to fulfill dreams with the recent launch of Amici, its new community in Bacoor, Cavite, complementing the busy lifestyle of young couples while providing an ideal community for their children.



A LANDSCAPED entrance welcomes residents to the Italia

## 5 considerations

Amici (meaning "friend" in Italian) is a masterplanned neighborhood sited near the conveniences of Bacoor while maintaining a tranquil environment. Distinguishing Amici from other developments are its five considerations—rudiments revolving around the needs and realities of young couples:

- **Security.** Every parent will only feel complacent about leaving their young kids at home when they know that their community is safe. As both parent heads for work, their child's companion is Amici's secure community with two entry gates which remain guarded at all times, thoughtful configuration of roads for easy guarding, high property fences and well lit roads, and controlled entry of vehicles and designated transportation drop-off points to ensure exclusivity.
- **Inward design format.** Landscaped pocket gardens interspersed between clusters break the confines of a linear development. Amici's configuration also allows interaction with neighbors, and kids finding more friends within the community. With all homes along the property line facing inward, added security is combined with appealing layout.
- **Neighborly home designs.** Inspired by Italian architecture, the single-detached homes at Amici evoke the feel of warmth and comfort. Four models are available for varying needs and tastes. The "Our First Homes" series of Amici suit beginning couples and families:

*Annissa.* With smart utilization of space, the Annissa model features a living and dining area, kitchen, 2 bedrooms, a toilet and bath, family hall and balcony with a floor area of 60 sq m on 112-sq-m lot area. Prices start at P1.64 million.

*Annora.* Timeless Ital
sign is evident in the
model, with a floor area
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and baths, with prices sta
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*Allegra.* Combining
and charm, the Allegra
has a more spacious
and living and dining
With a floor area of 74
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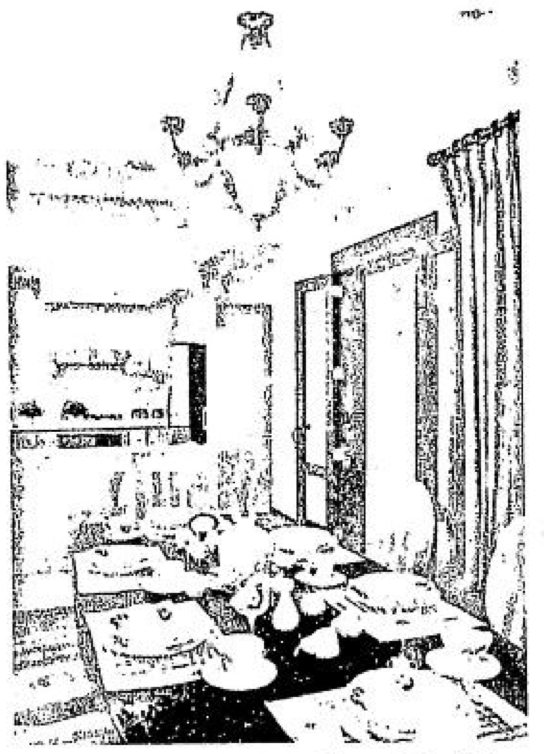


A FORMAL approach in the décor of the dining room, replete with double drape curtains, deep woods, dark furnishing, a balanced layout of pairs in placing accessories and furniture

it has a pitch," he points out.

### Working as a team

The collaborative spirit, Casas stresses, is the undeniable crucial component to the success of the Courtyards of Portofino. It was most beneficial that the architects were part of the project from the beginning which gave them the opportunity to give suggestions when it came to creating the master plan.

"We were able to ask them to make the lot cuts slight larger or maybe even move certain access roads so that the architectural details of the homes can be seen in better light—something that we don't get to do with other projects because we get asked to join in after the master plan has been created."

For its part, Brittany Corp. made sure that the right people came into the project at the right moment—making certain that too many cooks did not spoil the broth while getting the valuable input needed for a smooth translation of the concept from paper into a concrete structure.

The end result is Courtyards of Portofino—a sanctuary for true believers of la dolce vita.

The Courtyards of Portofino is on the Las Piñas-Muntinlupa-Laguna-Cavite link road. Property previews may be arranged at 850-6986, 850-2868 and 850-3084.

THE SECOND floor corridor and staircase showcase the materials of Raphael unit—tanguile doorframes of the balcony, laminated wood planks for easy maintenance, narra wood planks on the steps and cast iron balusters.

AYALA GREENFIELD

# Ideal living at south of metro

MAJOR decisions involving living and transferring to different homes are indeed serious ones. While living in the metropolis certainly has its advantages, several factors need to be considered and reconsidered.

It is a fact that congestion, pollution and other energy-sapping traits can take their toll on the once-hardened city dweller. But the perfect living environment need not be far or inaccessible.

### Alternative option

Ayala Greenfield is the development that's fast becoming the alternative option for those who require a much-needed change of scenery. The exclusive, residential community has a unique living environment that gives nature lovers and energetic sports enthusiasts their time and money's worth. The Calamba-based subdivision is only 20 minutes away from Alabang, and is becoming even more accessible with ongoing major road improvements to key areas south of Metro Manila.

The exclusive development prides itself in providing the homeowner a chance to partake of nature's elegant artistry, while allowing the pursuit of an active, energetic lifestyle. Lot owners have numerous options where to build their homes, as the different lot types are conducive to different scenic perspectives of Laguna de Bay, Mt. Makiling, Tagaytay Ridge and Ayala Greenfield's very own golf fairways.

The site is also home to thousands of different trees, so nature lovers are assured of a regular commune with serenity and beauty.

The par 72, 18-hole, all-weather championship golf course is conducive to seasoned or weekend players alike. Designed by acclaimed golf course architect Robert Trent Jones Jr. and constructed by Heritage Golf, the golf course utilizes and preserves the environment's natural characteristics for more challenging and esthetically pleasing golf games.

### Facilities

Amenities of the Golf and Leisure Club will supplement those that are already available at the Village Clubhouse and the Nature Park. It will also have facilities for bowling, badminton and swimming.

At the Village Clubhouse, there are activities galore that residents can enjoy on a regular basis, including inline skating, fishing at the lagoon, biking, kite-flying and indoor team sports like badminton, tennis and basketball.

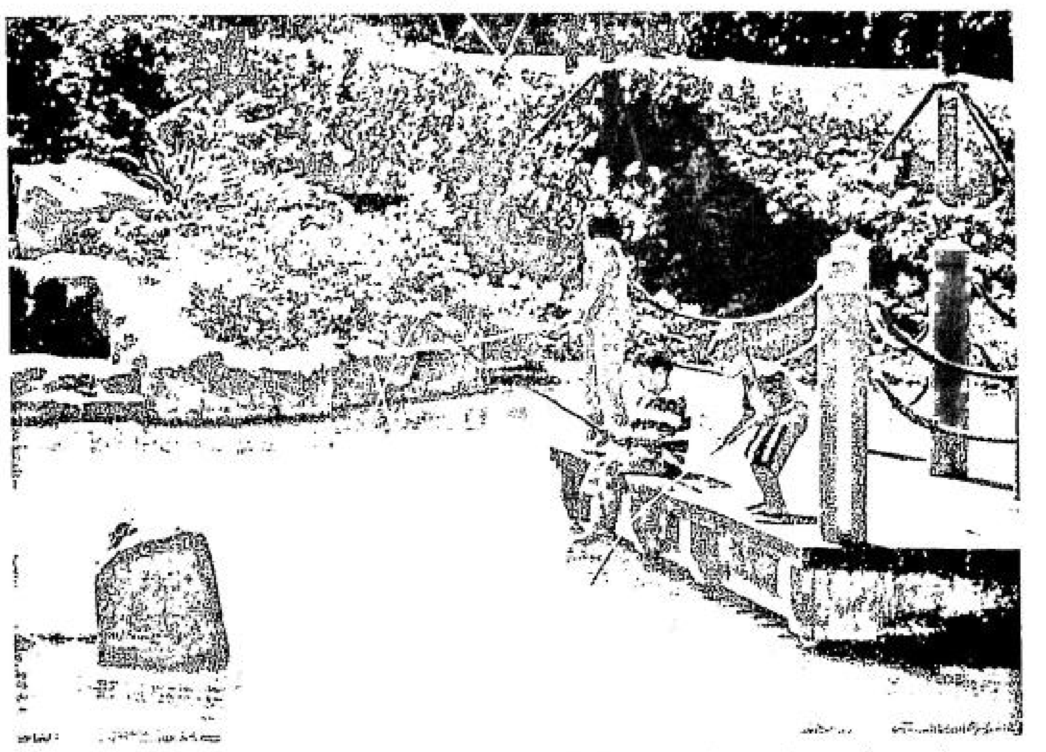
### Unparalleled commitment

Ideal living south of the Metro is an important option to consider, as Ayala Greenfield brings together the requirements that homeowners are hard-pressed to find in the city. Ayala Land Inc.'s unparalleled commitment to the best of what life and living have to offer guarantees members of the growing community satisfaction beyond their expectations.

Choosing this clean and empowering prime environment opens the doors to new and worthwhile possibilities. The decision to experience safe, convenient and classy living is not a difficult choice to make, after all, since a home at Ayala Greenfield is definitely a priceless investment.

For further information on Ayala Greenfield, please call 728-7000, log on to www.ayalagreenfieldestates.com.ph, or e-mail ayalasales@ayalaland.com.ph.

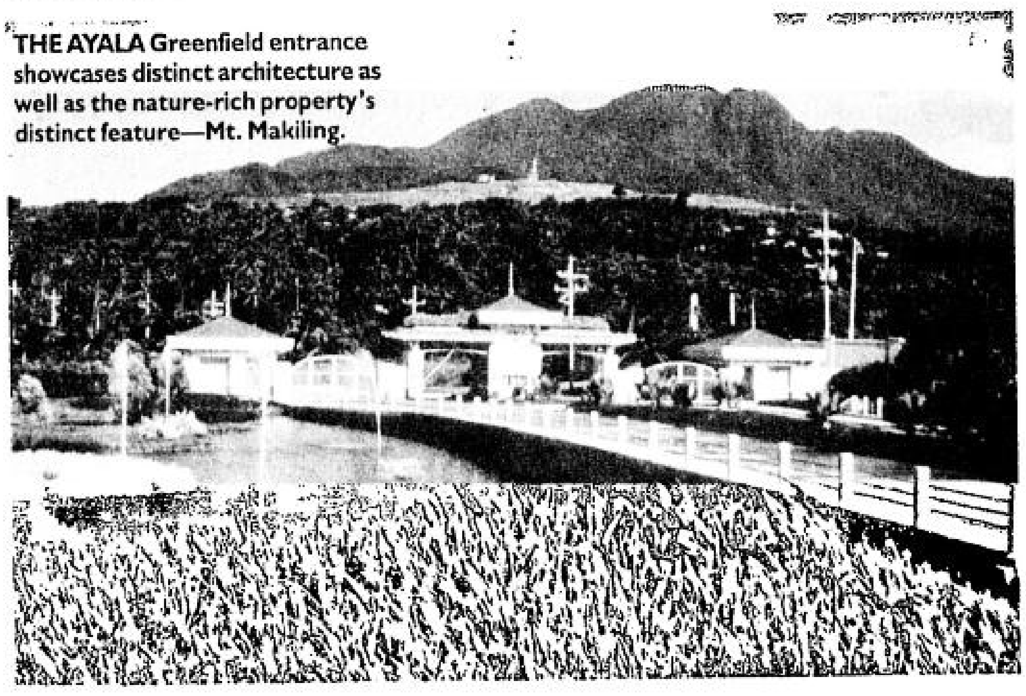
ASSORTED kites soar and glide above Ayala Greenfield's Nature Park.



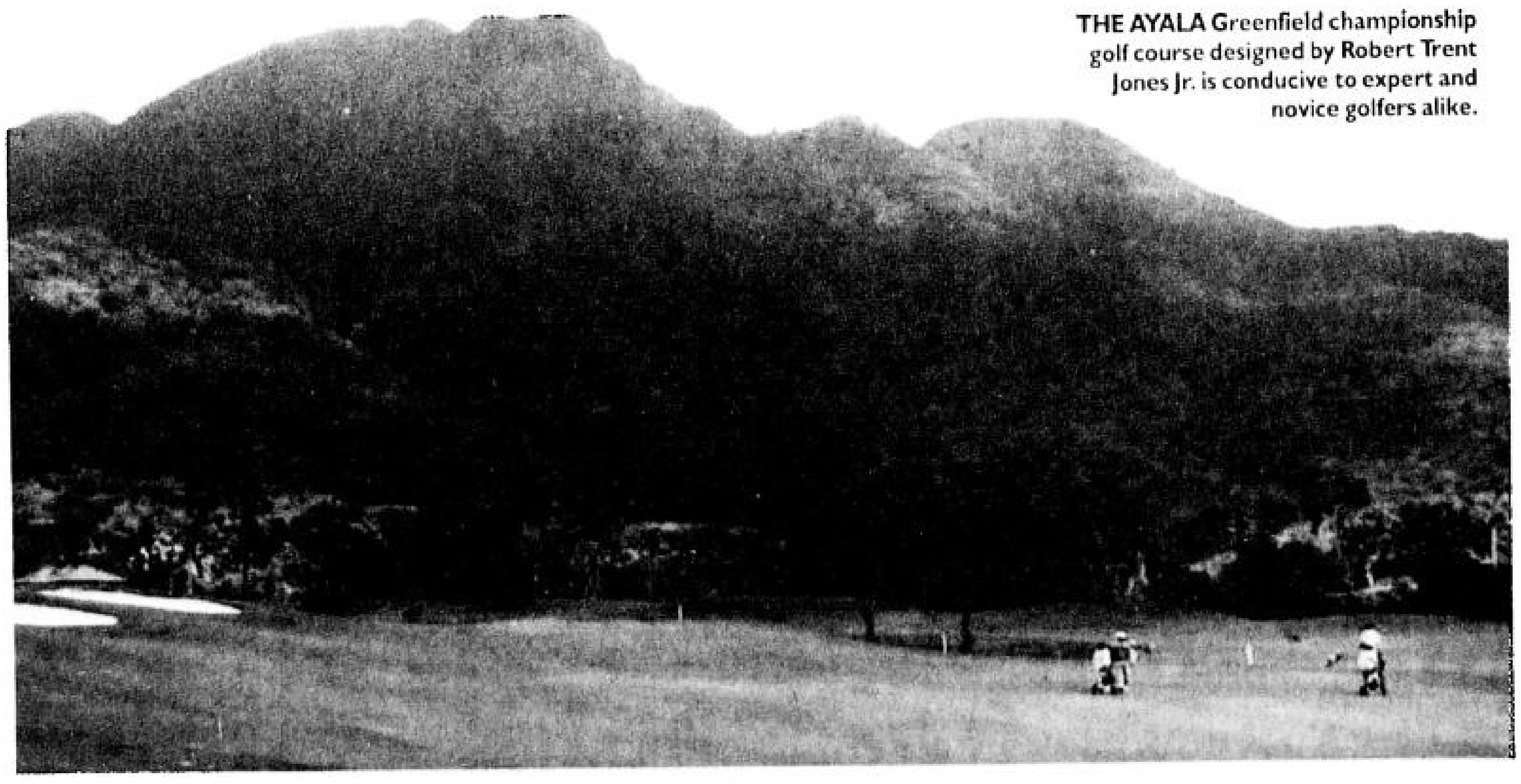
THE FISHING Lagoon is a place where young and old alike can relax and savor the cool, nature-rich environment of Ayala Greenfield.

KIDS enjoy the swing set at the playground, just one of many play-centric amenities at the Village Clubhouse.

A FAMILY practices their golf skills at the Village Clubhouse's putting green

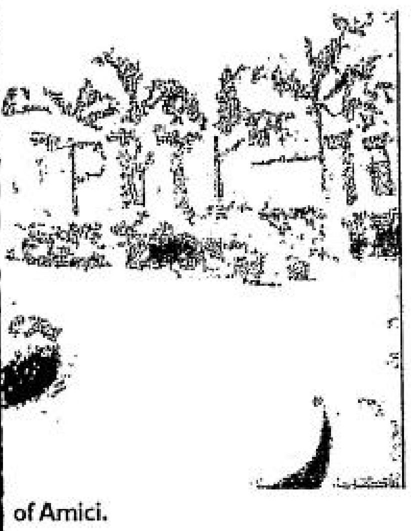


THE AYALA Greenfield entrance showcases distinct architecture as well as the nature-rich property's distinct feature—Mt. Makiling.



THE AYALA Greenfield championship golf course designed by Robert Trent Jones Jr. is conducive to expert and novice golfers alike.

## t Italian city in Amici



of Amici.

3 bedrooms, 2 toilets and bath, balcony and carport. It has a floor area of 105 sq m on 130-sq-m lot area and priced at P2.87 million.

### Practical features

Homes of great value possess more than ingenious architecture or charming interiors. Given the busy lifestyles of its residents, the function and practical features of a home is more important.

At Amici, the homes will feature family centered rooms. Entertaining family and friends will no longer be confined in the living room as bigger "theater" kitchens are completed with attractive tabletops and accessories. Master's bedrooms are made more spacious, giving room for walk-in closets; and enhancing bathrooms are fashionable finishes and accessories.

The communities of Crown Asia offer more than beautiful homes, that's why at Amici, residents can enjoy exclusive amenities for leisure and relaxation. Welcoming residents is Amici's landscaped entrance, while gatherings and other activities can be held at the "Corridoio del Villaggio" (multipurpose hall). A "piscine" (swimming pool) and children's playground can also be found within the neighborhood.

Strategically located on NIA Road and accessible via the Las Piñas-Muntinlupa-Laguna-Cavite Link Road (also known as Daang Hari), Amici is only 5 minutes away from Alabang. Surrounding Amici are thriving communities of Portofino, Southvale, the Meadows and Ayala Alabang. Amici's recent groundbreaking brought a record of 70 percent sales in two months.

Every project of Crown Asia is guided by the five core values they persistently adhere to: greenery, security, choices, serenity and attainability—cornerstones of thoughtful and effective masterplanning that give them distinction from other developments in the country.

Find complacence and the perfect companion in raising your children when you visit the secure and exclusive community of Amici. Interested parties may call Crown Asia at 873-1614 or 873-6610.

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# Brittany's theme-inspired homes of the world

HOME buyers in the metropolis who are in the market for upscale residential areas increasingly face a bewildering array of choices. All high-end property developers boast of "master-planned" communities, "world-class" design consultants, "first-rate" amenities and infrastructures, "efficient" use of space, "top-of-the-line" materials, ad nauseam. So what is there that distinguishes one property choice from another, to help make prospective homeowners make up their minds?

"Buying a home is like getting married—it's not something done every day and you need to be convinced that your decision is absolutely the best one for you," says Jing Serrano, president and CEO of Brittany Corp., the maverick developer with a 10-year track record of creating up-market residential communities and homes of the world that stand above the rest with themes inspired by premium destinations all over the globe.

## Inspirations

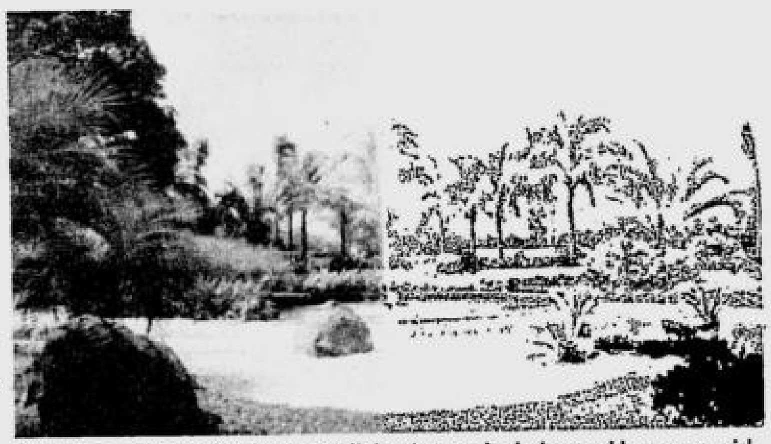
"Brittany's holistic, total application of thematic influences in envisioning communities—be it San Francisco neo-Victorian for Brittany Bay in Sucat, Swiss for CrossWinds in Tagaytay, elegant Italian for Courtyards of Portofino in Alabang, or Caribbean for the resort-inspired villages of Island Park in Dasmariñas, Cavite—enables us to create lifescapes, a term we use that refers not only to planned physical structures and spaces, but emotional and psychic dimensions as well. Each lifescape empowers residents to enjoy living to the utmost and maximize the possibilities offered by each day, because of where they live," explains Serrano.

"The application of themes is coherent in every community, starting inside and outside the homes down to details like attic rooms, balconies, bay windows, eaves, cupolas and stone cladding, but not monotonous and slavish," says the Brittany chief executive.

"Our use of themes is evocative of each place of inspiration," says Serrano, "so that when a well-traveled person lives in any Brittany community, he will find its environment, the esthetics within and without, reminiscent of the destination that inspired it, but not a literal transplantation of the original, which would not be in good taste. The result is a unique lifescape which suits his cultivated tastes and is perfect for his family to live in."

A VISUAL symphony, Viera offers vertical mid-rise living in Brittany Bay.

SURROUNDED by rolling terrain and thousands of pine trees, CrossWinds' Swiss Quadrille makes a great Swiss-inspired retreat.


THIS Island Park vista is about living in tropical-themed luxury, amid wide open spaces in the sun, cooled by breezes throughout the day.

THE REMBRANDT model of Courtyards of Portofino brings to life the "courtyard within a courtyard" concept.

## Unique design concept

Another plus offered by Brittany communities is the variety of residential configurations available to suit lifestyles and budgets. Examples of Brittany's innovative, awe-inspiring residences include single-detached home and lot packages applying the wide lot concept such as those in the La Posada neighborhood of Brittany Bay.

Duettos in the Victorianne neighborhood of Brittany Bay are thoughtfully designed structures of two homes each with a staggered configuration to maximize comfort and privacy. The Quadrilles, also at Victorianne, feature clusters of four units with a layout that enhances private space. With this unique design and layout, the Victorianne does not look or feel like your typical townhouse.

The courtyard homes of Courtyards of Portofino is all abut bringing the outdoors, indoors—reflecting the Italian's penchant for romance while allowing natural cooling within the home. And with the unique "courtyard-within-a-courtyard" concept, these courtyard homes are in turn laid out around a central courtyard. Temperate Tagaytay houses the Swiss Quadrilles at CrossWinds, taking on the "great room" concept with four residential Quadrille units per cluster, instead of building terrain consuming single-detached structures to create a Swiss-inspired weekend retreat amid a plethora of outdoor space.

Building properties that speak of more than mere lifestyles, Brittany Corp., the country's premier home builder, offers lifescapes that enrich and uplift the total quality of life of residents. Brittany's unending pursuit of innovation for new developments with its unique concepts and designs is an element that makes it, indeed, a trailblazing maverick in the local property sector. The application of themes by Brittany to build homes of the world amid distinctive lifescapes is best experienced firsthand in order to be truly understood. Property previews may be arranged by calling 850-2868 and 850-6986.

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Makita Router 3001B

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Apo Flexi Court

Roofseal Foam
- Waterproof and corrosion
- Heat cold and sound insulation
- Light weight and energy saving
- Economical and long lasting

Clipsal SceneMaster™ Lighting Controller

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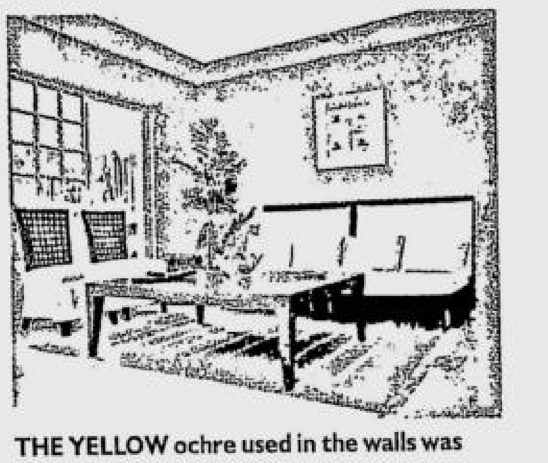
# Modern Asian appeal

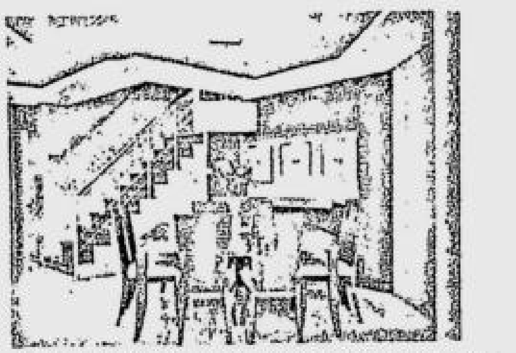
IN THE LATEST issue of My Home magazine, a young family opens the doors to their piece of heaven in Makati. By transforming what was once an '80s-inspired city dwelling into a sun-splashed home with the help of their "angel," architect and interior designer Minette Fajardo, the house was changed into a largely different space from what is was once before.

A relaxed ambience coupled with a homey appeal is felt as soon as one enters the living room, with comfortable furniture in muted shades and well-chosen accessories, perfectly complementing the relief wall on one side.

Same goes for the other areas of the house like the dining room and kitchen area, where everything falls into the right place, each one blending with the other, and effortlessly completing the overall look of this cozy residence.

Get more fabulous interior design and home decorating ideas and suggestions in the Renovation Issue of My Home magazine. My Home is a prestige publication of Mega Magazines & Publications Inc./The Mega Group. For more information, call 631-2859.


THE YELLOW ochre used in the walls was personally chosen by the owner.


ABSTRACT paintings adorn the once utilized space underneath the stairs.

# Taal View Heights Country Homes opens sports pavilion

LEDESCO Development Corp.'s Taal View Heights Country Homes recently inaugurated its newly constructed basketball, volleyball and badminton courts and the outdoor adult and kiddie swimming pools.

Taal View Heights Country Homes, located at the heart of Tagaytay-Talisay, continues to spruce up to provide owners with amenities that will blend well with its location and with the majestic view of Taal Volcano.

Taal View Heights Country Homes is the premiere development of Ledesco, "making tomorrow's best real estate investment available today."

For property previews of the limited lots available, please call 811-6420 830-2179 or call/text 0917-8285449.

CONSUL Fortune Ledesma, and husband Consul Rene L. Ledesma, president of Ledesco Development Corp., are shown with Fr. Anthony Mendoza.

Super!Countdown

8

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

C1

E-mail: super@inquirer.com.ph
**Text us your feedback:** inquirer sup name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

*Editor* **Pam Pastor**
*Creative Director* **Tim Yap**

# Super

style . urban living . pop culture . entertainment . recreation

First of two parts!
**The Super! 2nd Anniversary issue** page C2

**How to stay Super!** page D1

**The Anti 'it' Blackbook** page E1

**Wearing Super on your sleeves** page C7

[illegible] MILLET ARZAGA
Photography VICTOR CONSUNJI
Cover Story SUPER IS TWO YEARS YOUNG

Goldilocks
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Goldilocks

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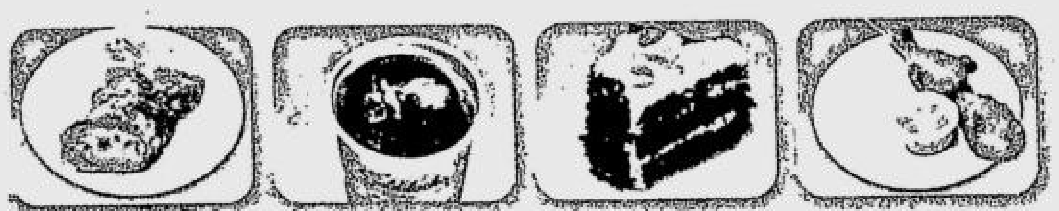

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# Stay Super!

1. Super! was born to be free, running around the streets, plying the route of pop culture, traversing the intersections of the boundaries that society has drawn.

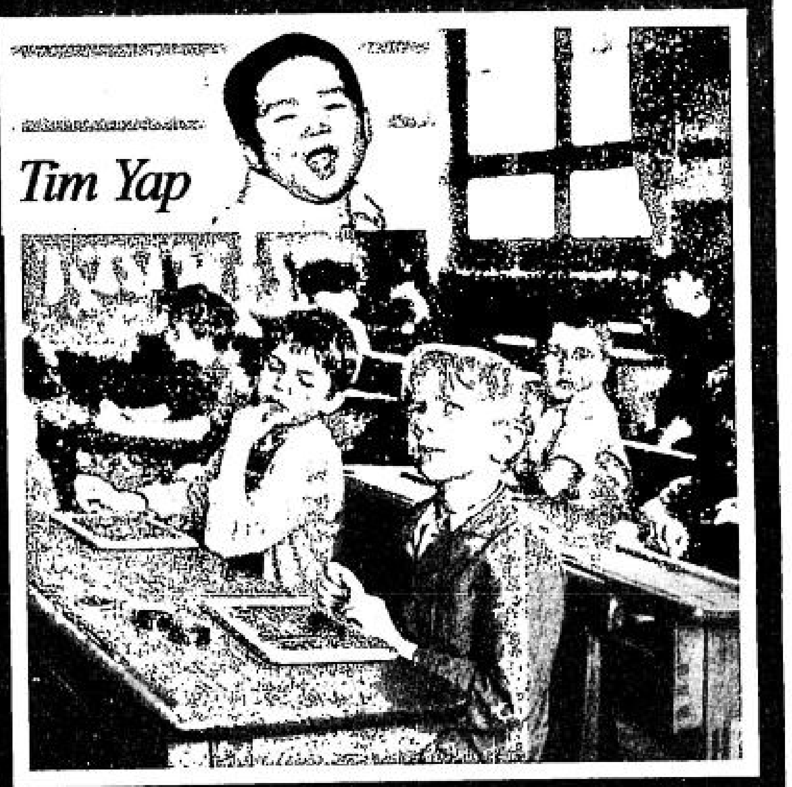
2. Many times, we put our fists right at the face of convention.

3. While our parent is turning twenty this year, we took leaps while walking amongst giants.

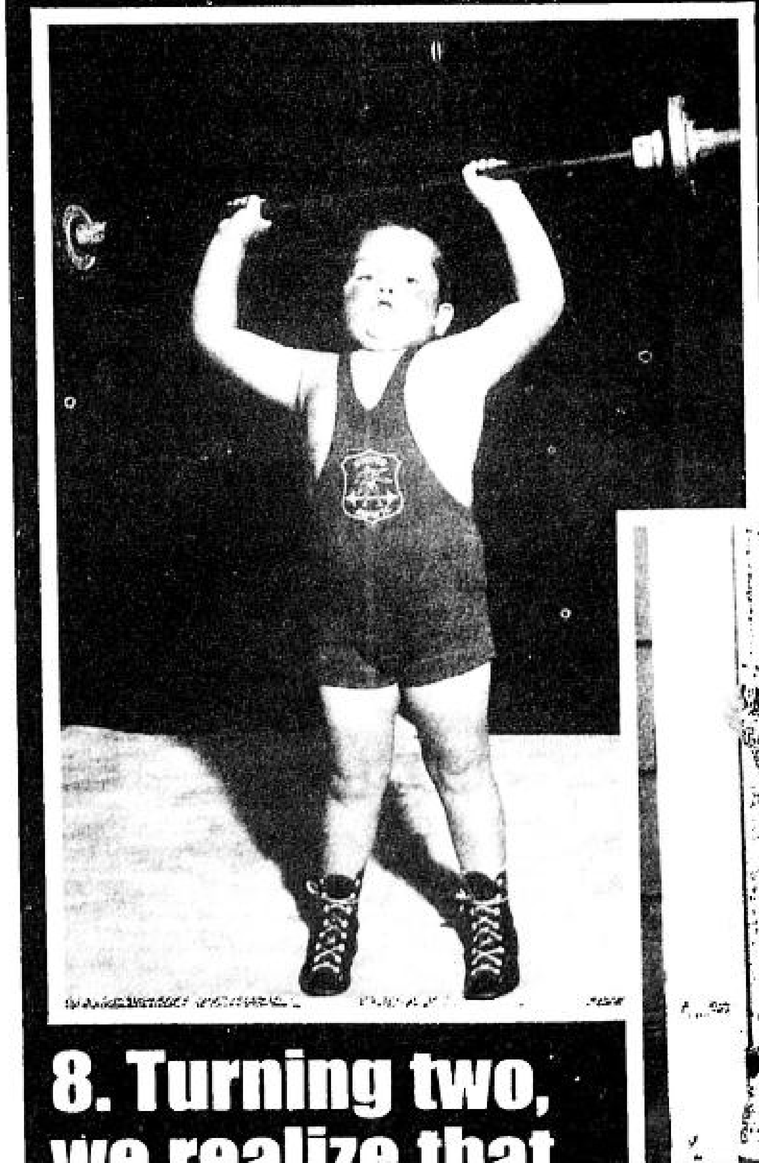
4. Some raised their eyebrows at the skin we showed, shot us dagger looks for our forward and liberal sense and had snide remarks about our being...different.

5. So we watched our weight, examined ourselves and looked down deeper.

6. We must admit that there were times when we fell flat on our faces—so we took out our frustrations on carbs.



7. But no matter what, we never stopped questioning ourselves, trying to find the best answers to any given question.

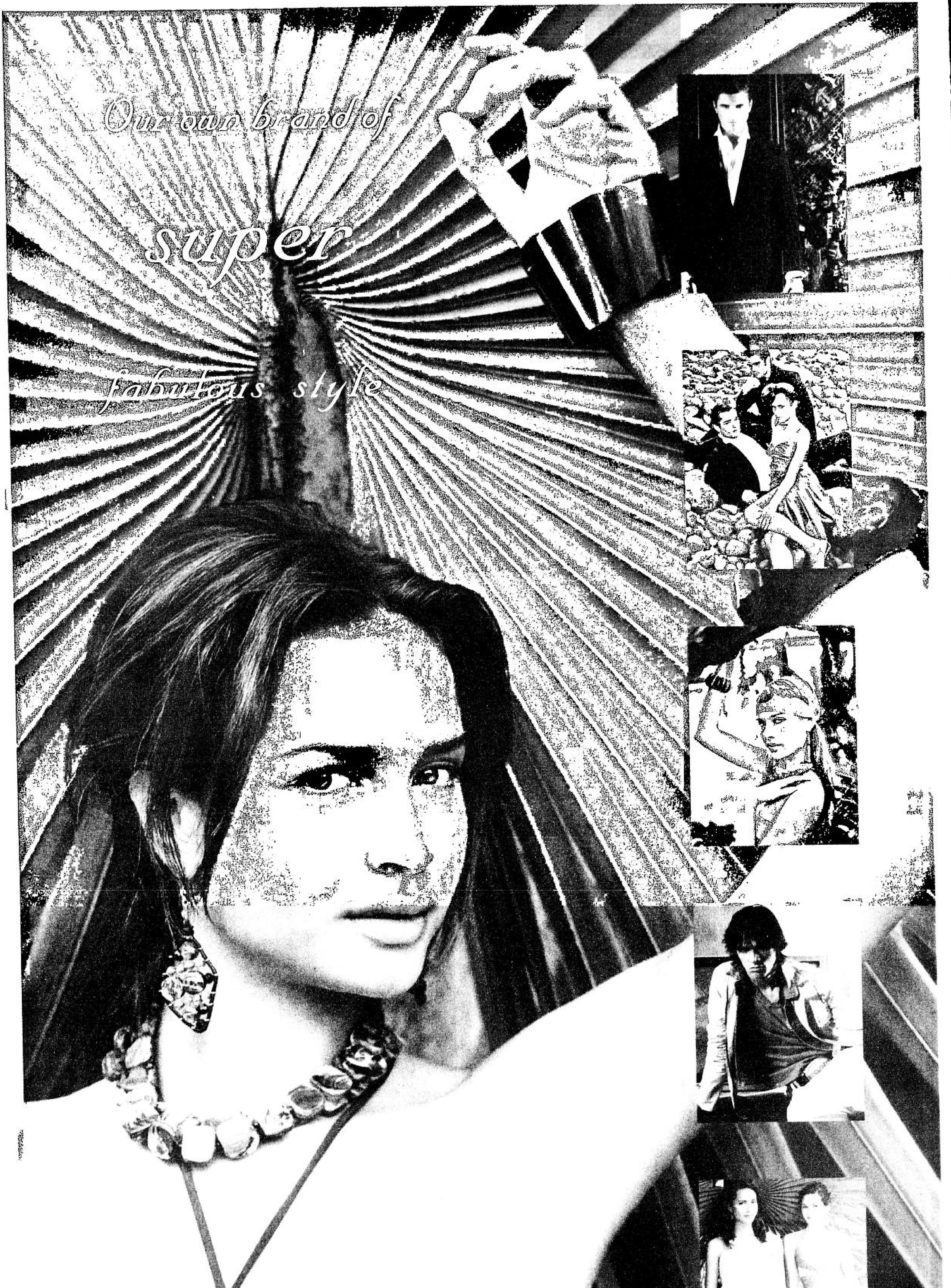


8. Turning two, we realize that what doesn't kill us, can only make us stronger.

9. Because the bottomline is, it's all about the love.

10. It's our birthday, and we'll smile if we want to. We'll continue to burst with life, be young forever and get our hands dirty if we need to. It's our combination of guts, good looks, wit, charm and humility that got us this far. Keep joining us on this journey.

**Stay Super!**


Our own brand of
super
fabulous style
Rustan's

Richard Gutierrez, full speed ahead
Luna-chic night with the stars
Eyes, eyes, Baby!
Paolo Pascual
Jericho Rosales
Utt-rageous
The future of the future
More than 24 with
Tata ta tata ta tata tata ta tata tatata
Who is Jay R and why is he raising the roof on R&B?
The Super! Manifesto for Today's Lovers
cabaret, old chum!
your face
Let the games begin!
She slinks like a Minx
Wearing my bikini in bed
10 tips for celeb couples who want to stay together
Blazing Bianca Araneta
The Tao of Corey Wills
Hello Iya, Let's Have Dinner
Eyes wide open
Undressed
How to wear modern indigenous
They can be Superstars!
'I am the most over-used actor in the industry!'
Island Spice

SATURDAY
The Birth of Super

# Super
# in da

**Text by James Gabrillo**
**Design and layout by Marlone Rubio**

OUR WORLD is rapidly becoming anti-human. Computer technology controls the populace's minds, virtual reality is the new god, the word "instant" is attached to everything—from noodles, to war and even sex.

We at Super! believe there is a need to move away from this depersonalization. Our own brave and new world will be about revisiting the raw energy that inspires creation. Our new mission: for this generation and beyond to develop a SUPERiority complex. (Yes, that includes you!) We encourage all to recognize what it is inside that makes all of us Super!

We invite you all to expose the beauty of being alive.

The feeling of being free.

As Super! turns two, we celebrate the supremacy of men and women...

We smile, frown, love, hurt, sing, dance, care, abuse, get fat, get lost, lose weight, have orgasms, have orgasms by ourselves, have secrets, come in different shapes, sizes and colors, are rude, are wise, are sick, have recovered, are straight, are gay, are beautiful, are disgusting, have twins, believe in UFOs, ride unicycles, have popularity contests, play charades, can roll-our
feel relieved afterwards
believe in nothing.

What you see in this sp
of human being's imag
beyond the most vertic
dimensional corners. It
we've done in the past
reminder of how essen

So ask yourself, how can

**Abel Ulanday ● Tim Yap ● Pam Pastor ● Tals Diaz ● Gino de la Paz ● Martin Valde**
**James Gabrillo ● David Milan ● Jason Moss ● Katrina Holigores ● Raya Mananquil ●**
**Janine Dario ● Paolo Reyes ● Jojo Nones ● Oliver Palumbarit ● Millet Arzaga ●**
**Adelle Idjao-Geraldo ● LA Mistades ● Andy Maluche ● Eddie Boy Escudero ●**
**Charmaine Palermo ● Xeng Zulueta ● Rosario Herrera ● Be Abeleda ● Leo Posada**

The thrill of the hunt

What it feels like for a girl

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Benchmark
of a
a Superl pledge

# peeps
# house

Face off
with
Raymond Gutierrez

ongues, scream and
, believe in a god,

read is the glorification
nation—how it reaches
al landscapes and one-
s a look back on what
nd our personal
ual it is to look forward.

you stay Super?

s • Chuck Dy • Marlone Rubio • Belen Belesario • Chabs Rubio • Pepe Diokno •
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ictor Consunji • Jake Versoza • Arvin de Guzman • Albert Pili • Genie Lagman •
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s • Yza Palmero • Me-ann Ayos • Rissa Camongol • Joyce Abaño • Emmie Velarde

SATURDAY
avant guardians

SATURDAY
The kids are all right

SATURDAY
oy pop in polka dots

SATURDAY
The Sweetest Tabu

Finding Gutsy

oung heart
run
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SATURDAY
A Geneva convention

Born again
Christian

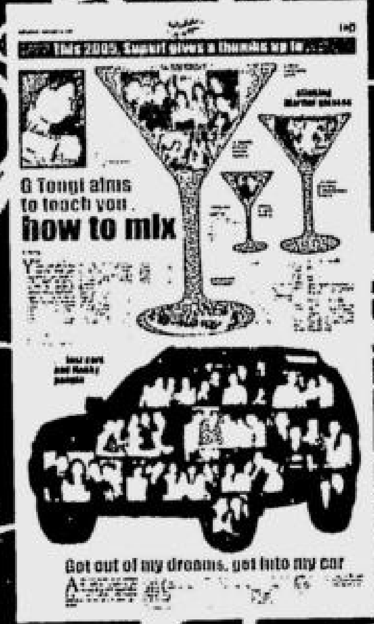
Fuel up with
fame

Lend me four
tenors

to watch
out for

Sing along
with this . . .

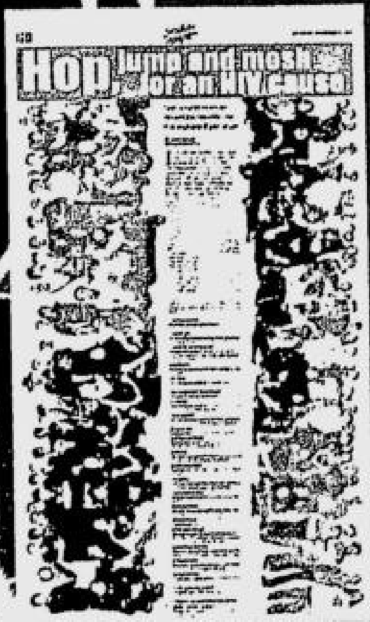
SATURDAY
Freedom
fest
at the Fort


This 2005, Superl gives a thumbs up to . . .
G Tongi aims
to teach you
how to mix
Get out of my dreams, get into my car

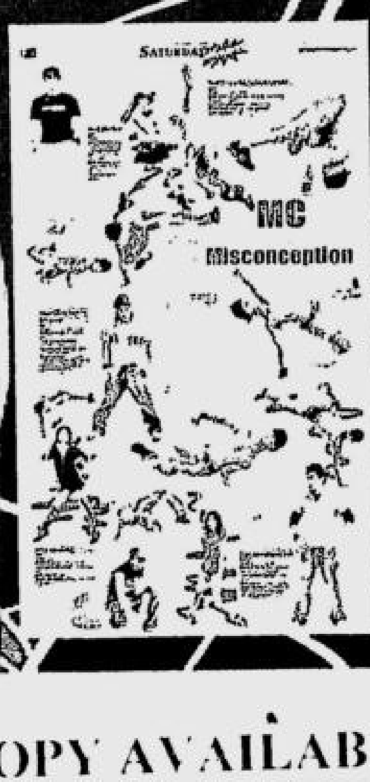
Shane Mac
attack

SATURDAY 4
My
special
K
trip

SATURDAY
A
flair
for the affair


Hop, jump and mosh
for an HIV cause

From
to coconut trees


SATURDAY
MC
Misconception

We wanna
rock with you

SATURDAY
terminator

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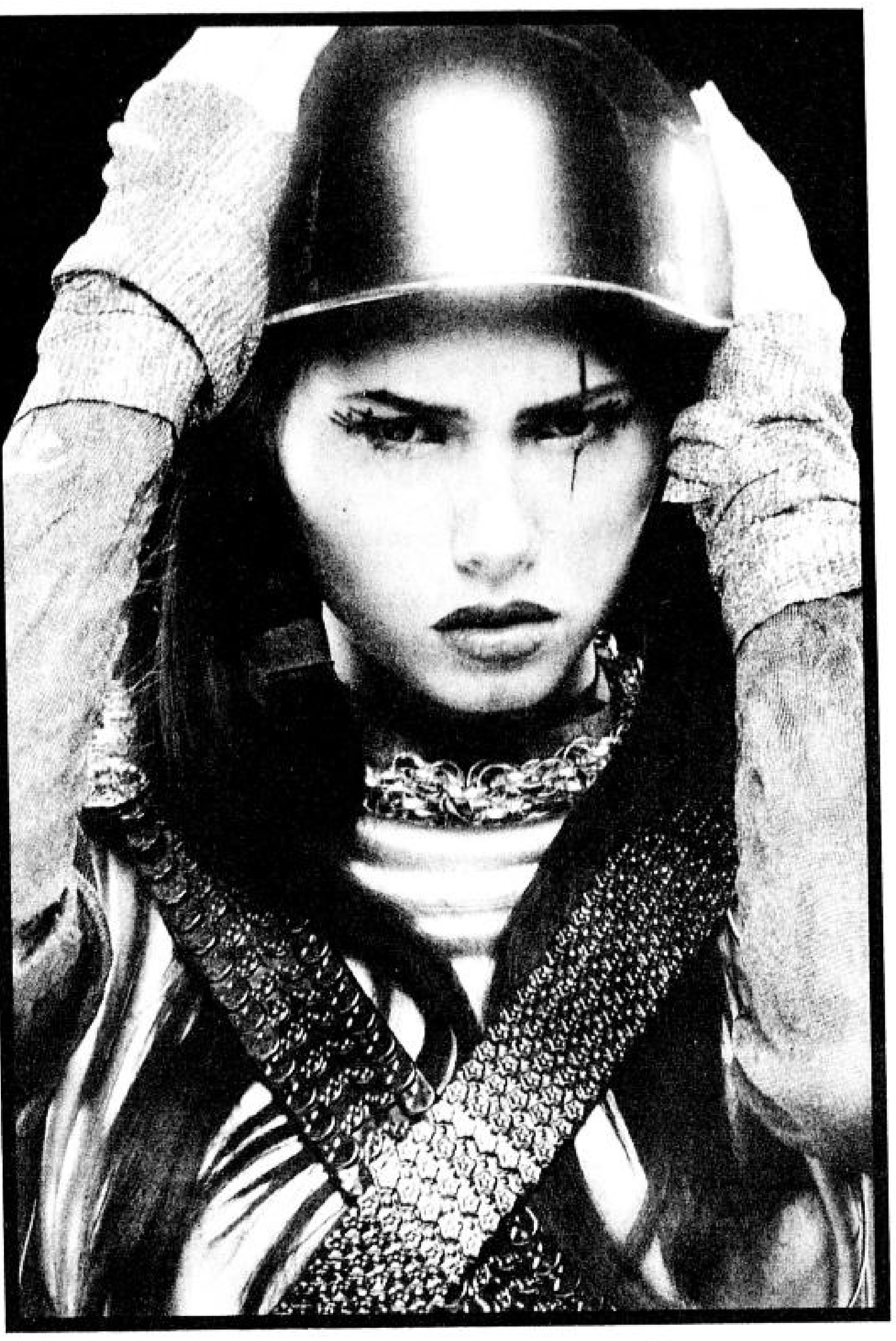
# DOS



**By Jigs Mayuga of Shu Uemura**
**Photographs by Tom Epperson**

MAN HAS always had a fascination with the number two. Throughout the course of history, there have been famous duos such as Adam and Eve, Cain and Abel, David and Goliath, Anthony and Cleopatra, Romeo and Juliet, Mork and Mindy, John and Marsha, Cagney and Lacey, Siskel and Ebert, Mary Kate and Ashley, and the Jaboom Twins.

But the number two does not just limit itself to well-known twosomes. In our everyday lives we encounter twos in mostly everything that surrounds us. Like the pair of pants you're wearing right now. Or those fabulous shoes that you bought last week. The pair of scissors that your stylist used to cut your hair.

A coin has two sides, the chopsticks you used to gobble down your Chinese take-out last night came in twos.

You may come across individuals who are two-faced. Nowadays, even the line between gay and straight seems to be getting thinner as more and more people claim to be bisexual.

The month of June commemorates two heroes from the Zodiac, the twin brothers Castor and Pollux from the sign Gemini. Pollux, the son of a god, was immortal and was renowned for his strength, while his mortal brother Castor was famous for his skill with horses. They are traditionally depicted as armed with spears and riding a matched pair of snow-white horses.

In this issue of Super!, Team Shu Uemura was chosen to play around with the concept of TWO and create a look for the pages of the 2nd anniversary issue. Together with Xeng Zulueta, the chief makeup artist and senior product expert of Shu Uemura, we thought of using the mythology of the twins Castor and Pollux.

June also marks the 22nd anniversary of the opening of the Shu Uemura Boutique in Omotesando, Japan in 1983. The yearly event for Shu Uemura is known as boutique birthday which coincides with the launch of new makeup colors and products. This year we reintroduce sorbet make-up, a modern interpretation of the sorbet collection in 1983.

Shu Uemura was chosen to play around with the concept of two

INSPIRATION & BEAUTY NOTES
XENG WAS INSPIRED BY THE IMMORTAL TWIN POLLUX, WHICH IS A FIERY, ORANGE STAR. ALONG WITH VETERAN STYLIST MILLET ARZAGA, THEY TRANSFORMED LISA ROSITTER INTO THE FORM OF A ROCK GODDESS AND A REBEL WARRIOR PRINCESS CLAD IN ARMOR AND MESH STEEL. THE LOOK IS STRONG, FIERCE AND ALL POWERFUL. FOR THESE LOOKS XENG USED THE MANGO FRESH PRESSED EYE SHADOW FROM THE SHU UEMURA BOUTIQUE BIRTHDAY 22 COLLECTION AND FIBER XTENSION LENGTHENING MASCARA IN BRONZE ON LISA'S EYES. ON HER LIPS SHE USED A FIERY RED-ORANGE LOLLISHINE ROUGE 132 TOPPED WITH LOLLISHINE REFLECTS IN ORANGE AND A DEEP BURNT BROWN ROUGE 4 795. CHEEK COLOR WAS DEEPLY ENHANCED USING THE WATER BLUSHER STICK IN PEACH AND THE COLOR MOUSSE IN AIR BRONZE AND AIR CORAL.

ENTHUSED BY THE MORTAL TWIN CASTOR, A BRIGHT WHITE STAR, I WORKED WITH UP-AND-COMING STYLIST FAITH UY. LISA'S LOOK WAS ALTERED AND TRANSFORMED INTO THE APPEARANCE OF A VERY HUMAN, PALE, ALMOST SICKLY INDIVIDUAL, IN A BACK BRACE. THE MODEL IS ENVELOPED IN ELEMENTS OF WHITE SUCH AS COTTON, POWDER AND GAUZE WHICH LITERALLY CONNOTES EARTHLY VULNERABILITY. ON BOTH LOOKS EYES WERE ENHANCED BY SHADES OF GREEN USING THE LIME SORBET PRESSED EYE SHADOW PALETTE FROM THE SHU UEMURA BOUTIQUE BIRTHDAY 22 COLLECTION AND FIBER XTENSION LENGTHENING MASCARA IN IVY GREEN. LIPS WERE CONTRASTING IN COLOR WITH ONE LOOK USING A DEEP PURPLE STAIN USING ROUGE 4 288 AND ANOTHER LOOK WITH A PALE, SHINY LIP USING ROUGE 4 93BE TOPPED WITH LOLLISHINE REFLECTS IN SHINY, FLESH-TONE 922. CHEEKS WERE SLIGHTLY FLUSHED USING THE WATER BLUSHER STICK IN PINK AS WELL AS COLOR MOUSSES IN AIR ROSE AND AIR WHITE TO HIGHLIGHT THE FACE.

**POLLUX / IMMORTAL:**
Hair & Makeup by:
Xeng Zulueta of Shu Uemura
Photographed by: Tom Epperson
Imaging by: DIX
Styled by: Millet Arzaga
Modeled by: Lisa Rossiter

**CASTOR / MORTAL:**
Hair & Makeup by:
Jigs Mayuga of Shu Uemura
Photographed by: Tom Epperson
Imaging by: DIX
Styled by: Faith Uy
Modeled by: Lisa Rossiter

## Child Of Fire

Two...
Dos, Deux,
Dalawa...
Twice, Double,
Dual, Twofold,
Binary...
Duo, Partners,
Pairs,
Twosome,
Twins...
Yin and Yang,
Protagonist
and Antagonist,
Immortal and
Mortal
Master and
Protégé,
Hard and Soft,
High and Low,
Strong and
Weak...
Two

## Water Nymph

MTV VJs spill their Super! secrets and show you how to wear the Super! logo with their TIGI 'dos

**Claire**

- **I never go to bed without...** brushing my teeth and turning on the TV (I leave it on Nickelodeon).
- **My head is always full of...** thoughts on either what I just did or what I want to do.
- **2 years from now I will...** [illegible]
- **My super moment was when...** [illegible]
- **To stay Super! I must...** [illegible]
- **If I was a TIGI Bed Head product I would be...** AFTER PARTY because it meant that there would be a party later.

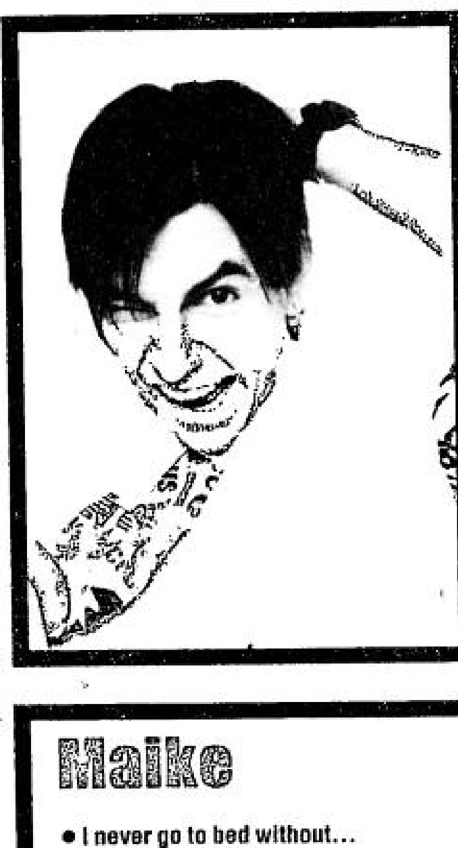
# Super! took these VJs out of the bed and went into their heads

**Colby**

- **I never go to bed without...** brushing my teeth.
- **My head is always full of...** useless information.
- **2 years from now I will...** be 27.
- **My super moment was when...** I graduated from college.
- **To stay Super! I must...** wear a cape and fly.
- **If I were a TIGI Bed Head product I would be...** Hard to Get because nobody understands me.

**Nicole**

- **I never go to bed without...** putting lip balm, moisturizer and foot lotion.
- **My head is always full of...** crazy ideas.
- **2 years from now I will...** make millions.
- **My super moment was when...** (It's a tie) I graduated cumlaude and became the recipient of a leadership award and when I won the MTV VJ hunt.
- **To stay Super! I must...** always be positive.
- **If I was a TIGI Bed Head product I would be...** Control Freak because I like things under control always, I try:::



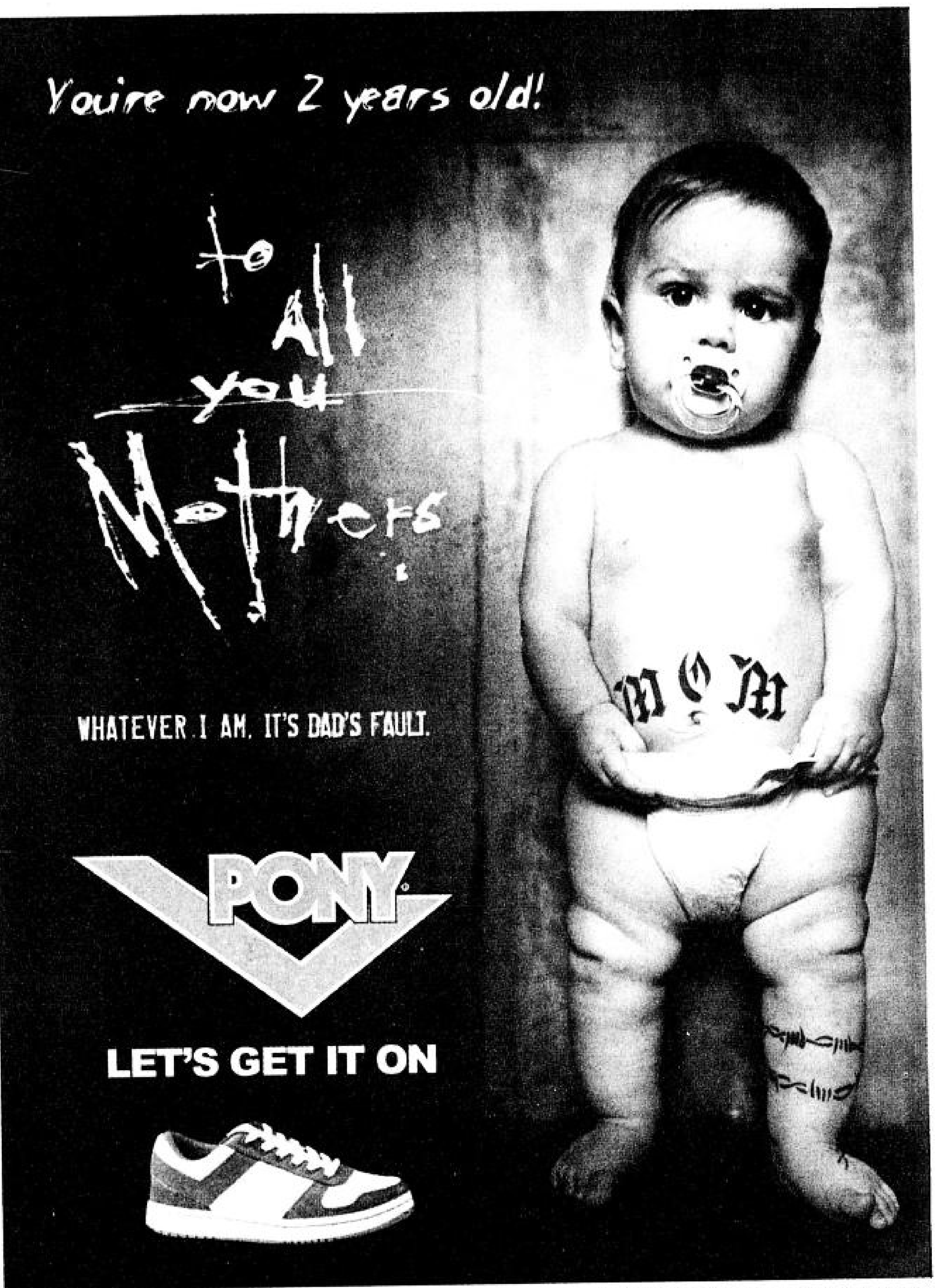
**John Joe**

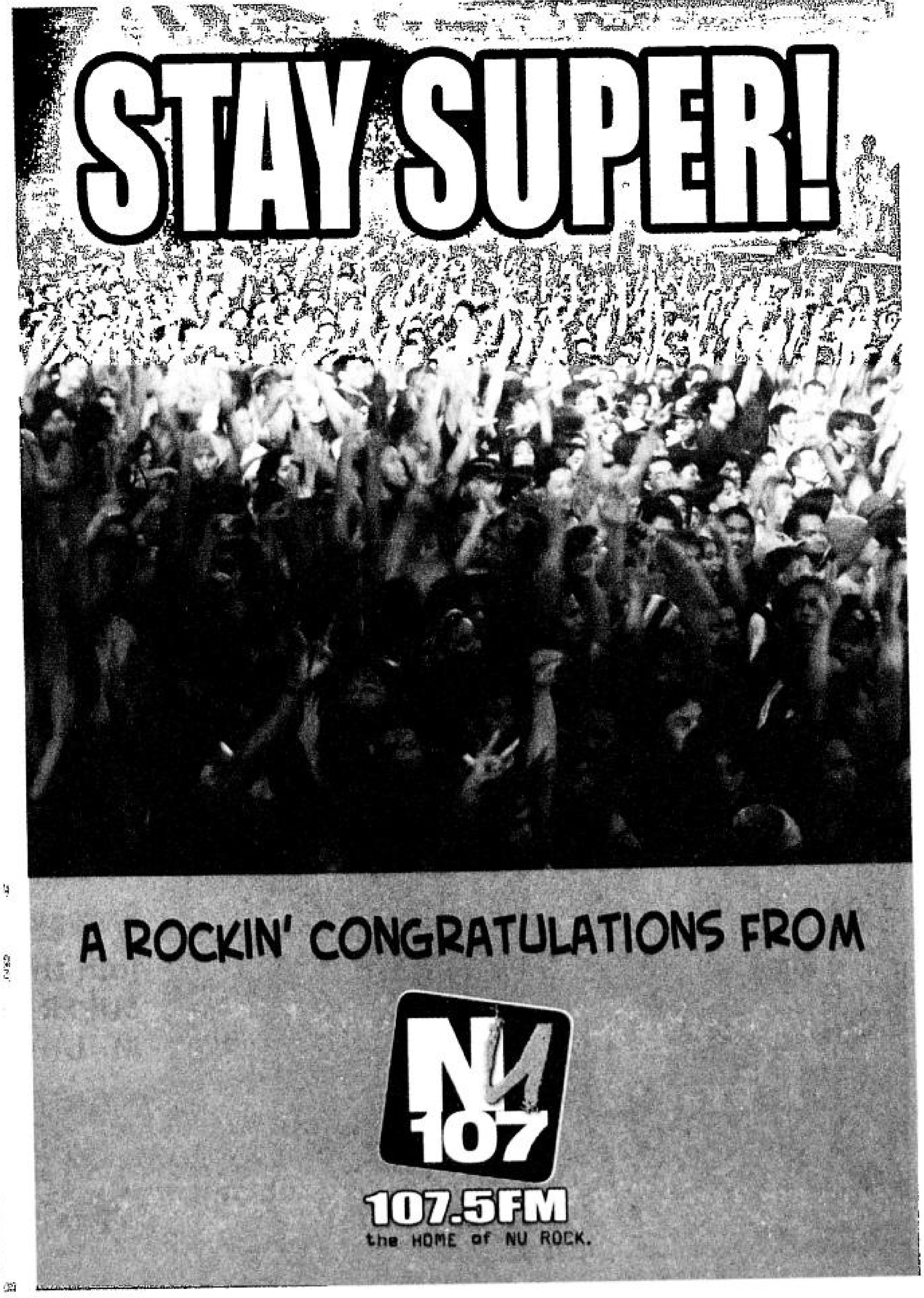
- **I never go to bed without...** watching at least two hours of TV.
- **My head is always full of...** ideas on how to do things better.
- **2 years from now I will...** [illegible] abroad.
- **My super moment was when...** [illegible] Cebu [illegible] MTV VJ.
- **To stay Super! I must...** [illegible]
- **If I was a TIGI Bed Head product I would be...** BOY TOYS [illegible]

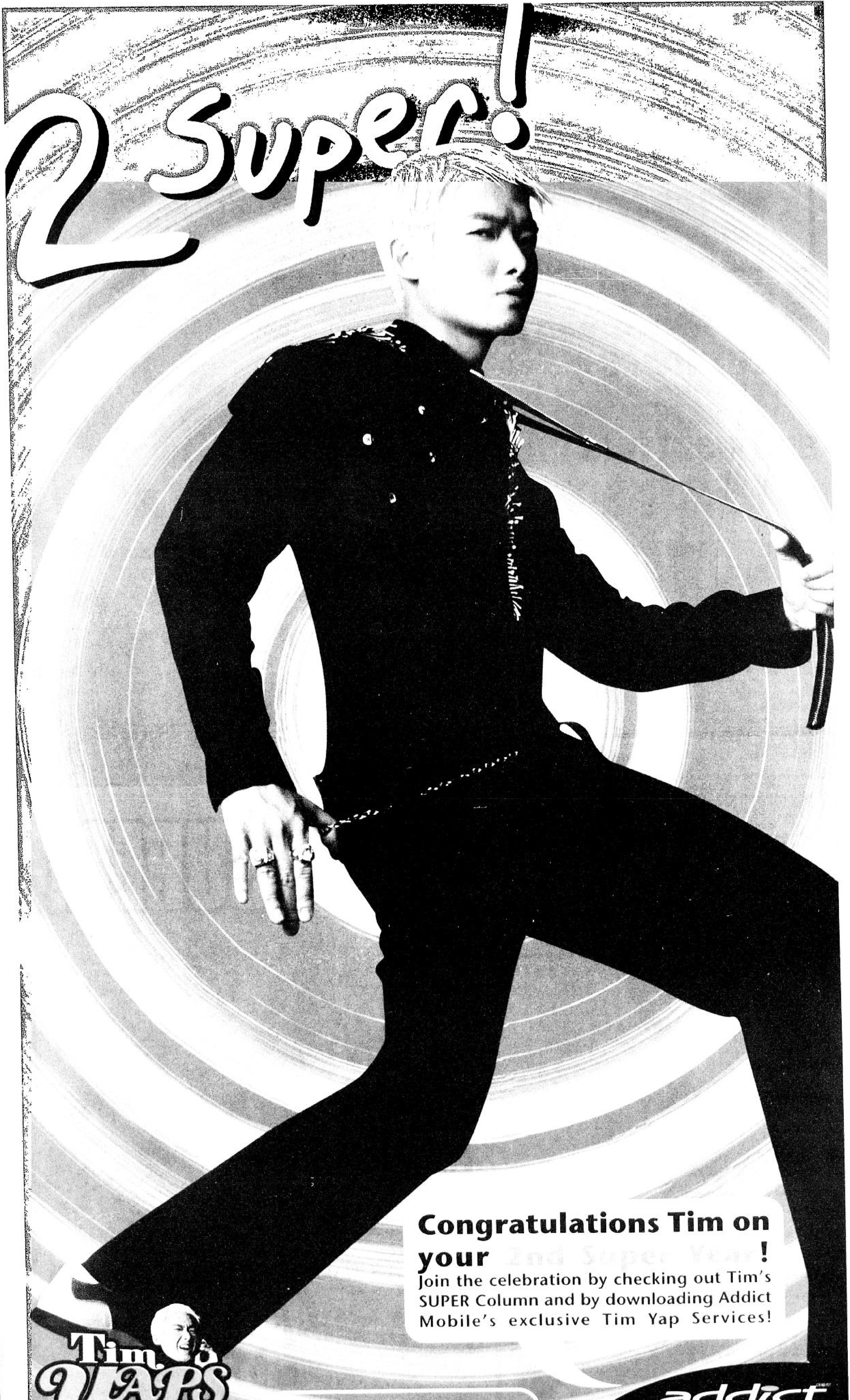
All hairstyling products: TIGI Bed Head
Photography: Victor Consunji
Makeup: Felicia of Basement Salon
Styling: Millet Arzaga
Sittings editor: David Milan

**Maike**

- **I never go to bed without...** brushing my teeth.
- **My head is always full of...** thoughts, ideas and schedules.
- **2 years from now I will...** be done with school, I hope.
- **My super moment was when...** I got an offer to be an MTV VJ.
- **To stay Super! I must...** remain true to myself.
- **If I were a TIGI Bed Head product...** I would be Chocolate Syrupy because I'm addicted to chocolates.







2 Super!

**Congratulations Tim on your 2nd Super Year!**

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**Text us your feedback:** Inquirer sup name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

2nd Anniversary issue

style . urban living .

# TWO for the road

### Bits of randomness after two years of Super!

AYE NAVARRO

HE was gayer than disco.

He was the first person who ever sent me fan mail two years ago, just when Super! was still a newborn cub in the publishing den, and I was still getting used to the job title "columnist" without retching from visions of that poser byatch Carrie Bradshaw.

The subject heading on his email read: "*Chuva moh!*" Being a bit more knowledgeable than I'd admit with my homocabulary, I knew that his letter could either serve as a dose of Prozac, or an effective downer on my spirits. For "chuva" in gayspeak could stand for just about anything. Thus, "chuva moh!" could very well mean "*ganda mo!*" or "*baduy mo!*" or "*feeling mo!*" But as I read on, I found out that it was all good: the email sender was a closet gay Pinoy working in the Middle East, and somehow reading my column that day had brought him back to the happier times back in the Philippines, in spite of its "ups and downs." I admit I was as thrilled as a transvestite finding the perfect pantyhose—somehow, the words and ideas I strung together had struck a cord with someone out there. Since then, that cheerful "chuva" had served as my guiding post in managing this little piece of real estate on the Saturday papers. What would be compelling enough to get a total stranger send in his "chuva"? I soon realized that I was not just in the business of affecting readers, I was likewise, little by little, getting affected by the readers themselves.

## OUT THE WINDOW

### Tals Diaz

In the past two years since Super!'s inception, I've had to sharpen my skills in playing multiple roles as observer, listener, critic, counselor and pseudo-sage amidst the friends and strangers in the world I call home. In the ongoing adventure, I had met a host of characters who have at one time or another graced my stories. People from the highs or lows of society who had inadvertently served as inspirations for me to move forward (or at times end it all now by slitting my wrists). Thank God that there were more encounters with young believers: those who have maintained a positive outlook in the surreal universe that is the Pinoy landscape. It's those who choose out-of-the-box over boxed thinking, who believe that it's possible to be uplifted yet keep their feet planted firmly on the ground who have kept me believing. In the two years of jotting down mental morsels in an attempt to capture the era's zeitgeist, I could say that I'm still learning, still affected, and many times still trying to make sense of what's out there. In honor of Super!'s anniversary, I've drummed up a random list of stuff I've observed from peering and climbing 'Out the Window'.

**Mediocrity is the way of the fame whore.** So you want to be a model, a celebrity, a DJ, a VJ or an actor? Well, get in line, apparently it's a long one. I have no qualms about people wanting their proverbial fifteen minutes, but I do raise my eyebrows about those who pursue fame for fame's sake, without believing in the

TWO/ D4

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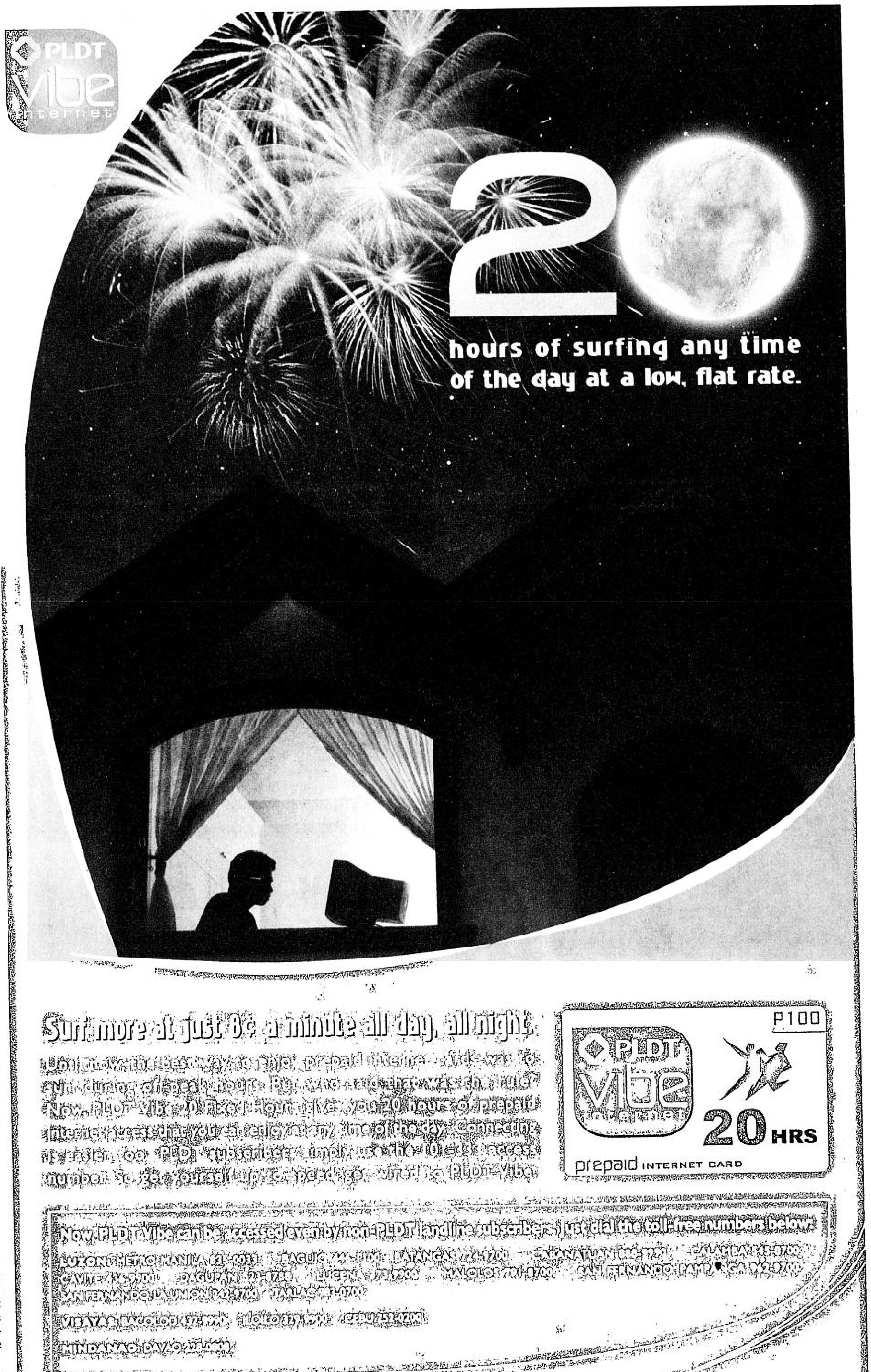

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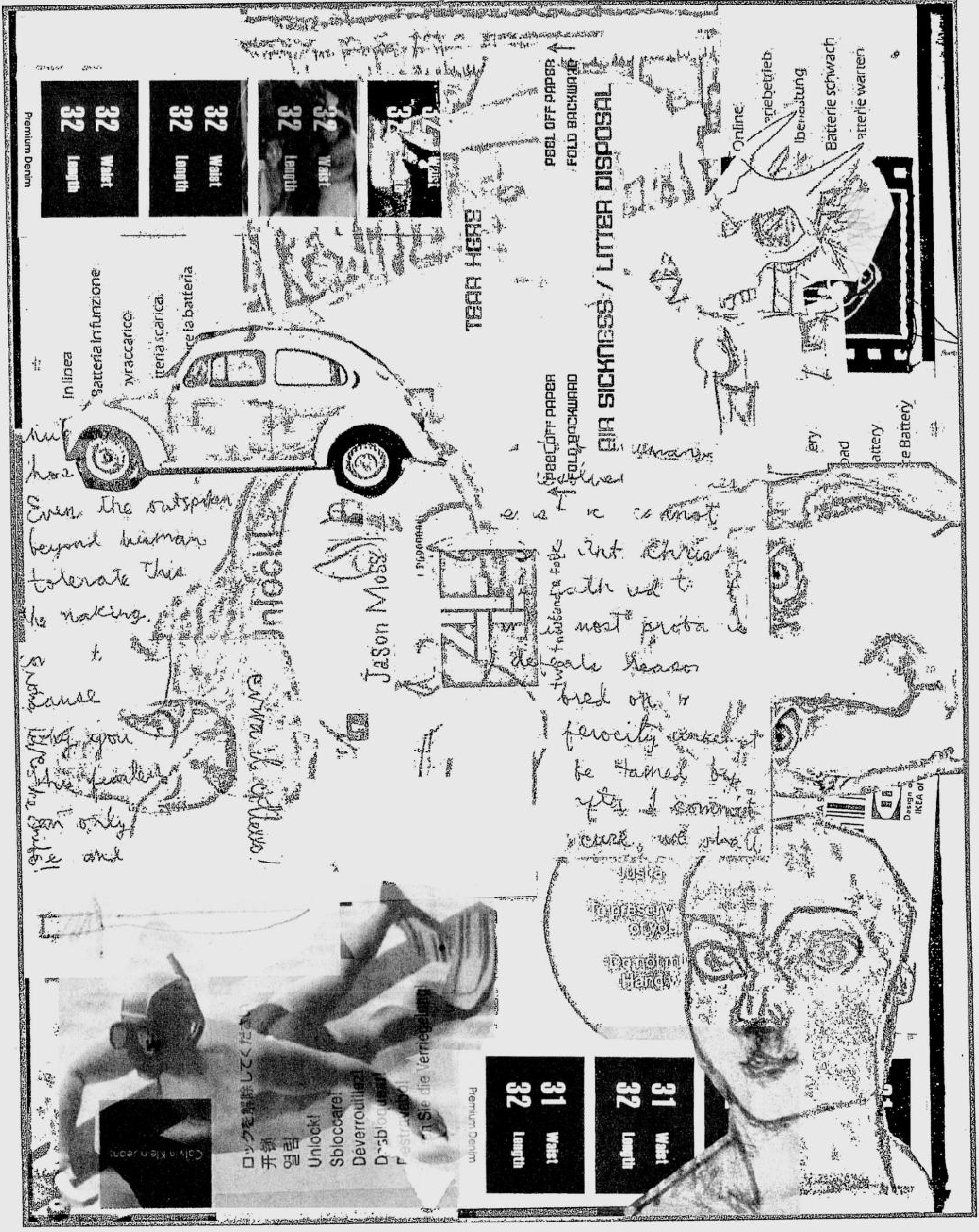

# Trigger Happy

## Looking back will give you more fuel to move forward

**By Katrina Holigores**
**Original artwork by Jason Moss**

SAY CHEESE! Filipinos are nuts about taking photos. Anywhere and everywhere they go, we snap away. We are self-appointed paparazzi - with the twist of having ourselves as the celebrity du jour. Our parents of course are one step above, taking photos of us right out of the womb - literally - and proceeding to document every single style disaster and/or triumph we go through in our lives. Do you want to forget your prom (or at least your date)? It's guaranteed that there is enough proof on film to never let you forget it! Some photos are to be cherished, some are used for comic relief, others for blackmail. With the advent of camera-equipped cellphones (one model even offers two - go figure), it's almost impossible to escape a photo op.

Recently, I came across a business that creates "scrapbooks" for other people. This struck me as odd. When I was younger, a scrapbook was a very personal piece of work, almost like a visual diary, and I would never think of anyone else doing it for me. At least, with the exception of my mom who religiously turned my baby book into a glorious work of evidence of my existence at par with the files of CSI Las Vegas, Miami and New York. Photo albums lined my room and my family room, labeled carefully with notes on each trip and each occasion. The photo albums are now replaced by computer files or CDs but the contents are the same. Inside lies a treasure trove of what has come to pass.

### Visual recording

Today, we celebrate the 2nd birthday of Super! That's a total of around 96 Saturdays of visually recording the past 24 months' goings on. Though still in its infancy, Super! has given many unknown photographers and writers a voice. There were many styles and countless layouts produced, it remains true to one thing - it's fixation on youth empowerment. It is foolish to compress any generation into one neat little package, hence a cacophony of expression has ensued through Super!'s numerous print outs. One has a choice of reading a simple, almost fluffy retelling of an event, to an exploration of the esoteric meaning of life (sometimes from the same writer). Like a person going through puberty (or a mid-life crisis), phases and personalities are revealed. What is consistent is that "The Now" is highlighted. And if we don't know how to live in the present, then we don't know how to live.

### Look back

Most of us document our reality via diaries (or now blogs), photos (phlogs), videos (www.manyak.com - kidding) and for some, kiss and tell stories from their exes (those b*stards!). When we look back at where and what we've been, we get a good gauge of what direction we should be looking at for our future. Often, we charge through life with blinders on, forgetting where we came from or what made us the most happy. When we stop to look back on what brought us the most joy, we begin to question if we are where we want to be. A photo album, aside from bringing forth laughter or groans of embarrassment, makes us remember the good, the bad and the moments that make us what we are today. Memories trigger something in us and remind us of what we had wanted to do once upon a time when there were no such things as "limitations."

They say when you wish for something, you must wish the way a child does. Think or dream big and be engulfed in the feeling that is brought forth when you affirm that nothing is impossible. It's true, once upon a time, you actually dated that *&%$! and survived. What could be harder? Seriously, compare yourself then, to now, isn't it cool that you are (hopefully) a little more hip and perhaps a lot wiser? Go and look over the visual memories of you or the people in your past that were lovingly archived for reflection. Search for old letters, book reports, essays, agenda entries or anything that was reminiscent of your beliefs and values in the recent or distant past. Change was and is inevitable and now you have proof of it. Knowledge (and acceptance) of one's beginnings attribute to a stronger sense of self. Once we know what is home and where our roots are, the more confidence we have to fly out to the unexplored.

### Be grateful

Memories can be a safe haven and a comfort zone for us but they should not hinder our growth. In fact, they should allow us to be freer, with the awareness that we have been through so much and that we will go through much, much more! This weekend, spend some time in your past. Be grateful for the bridges you have built and the ones that you (for your own maturity) had to break off. Looking back will give you more fuel to move forward.

Don't forget your camera and smile.

## 24/7 SUPER! EVENT GUIDE

# The French connection

FRENCH SPRING IN MANILA

EXPLORE the many facets of Franco-Filipino culture

**By Paolo R. Reyes and Janine Cuenca-Dario**

ONCE again, the annual season of French Spring in Manila is upon us, urging us to explore the many facets of Franco-Filipino culture through a month-long celebration of our deeply intertwined artistry.

With a diverse line-up of concerts, film screenings, art exhibits, food festivals and modern dance performances, the month of June is a Francophile's fantasy come to life. Here are some key French Spring 2005 events that will kick off this week:

### Rock for a Reason: Music with a Mission, 3 p.m. today

Rock for a Reason is an open-air charity concert featuring The Mongols, Kapatid, Menaya, Spy, Kjwan, Loquy, Severo, and Slapshock. Catch them at 3 p.m. today at the Sports Field of the European International School Manila, 75 Swaziland St., Better Living Subdivision, Parañaque City. Call 857-6920.

### 10th French Film Festival, June 4–15

The festival is a panorama of French contemporary cinema featuring films currently showing in Paris cineplexes.

Don't miss Ils se marièrent et eurent beaucoup d'enfants by Yvan Attal, 5 X 2 by François Ozon, and 36 Quai des Orfèvres by Olivier Marchal. Screenings will be at the Greenbelt 1 Cinemas, Ayala Center, Makati until June 15. Call 857-6920 or visit www.frenchspringinmanila.com.

### Indios Bravos, June 6

On Monday, June 6, witness talented dance group, Airdance, peform a full-length dance theater piece. Indios Bravos traces the condition of the Philippine diaspora, highlighting the inter-cultural and global character of the historical and modern Filipino. 8:30 p.m. at Onstage, Greenbelt 1, Ayala Center, Makati. Call 857-6920

### Journees Gastronomiques, June 6–19

Two chefs from Le Cordon Bleu in Paris will prepare special dishes at the Tivoli, Mandarin Oriental Manila, from June 6 to 19. On June 9 and 10, they will hold special cooking workshops (call 750-8888 loc. 2431). On June 11, they will have a special demonstration at the Alliance Française de Manille. Call 895-7585.

### French Colors, June 7, 8, 9

Twelve young French musicians perform in three musical evenings dedicated to French and European classical music. On June 7 and 9, they will perform at the Francisco Santiago Hall, PCIBank Tower I, Makati Ave. cor H.V. dela Costa, Makati. On June 8, they will be at the Ayala Musuem, Ayala Center, Makati. All the concerts begin at 8 p.m. Admission is free. Call 857-6920.

### Paris Off Color, June 4–19

Paris Off Color is an exhibit by multi-awarded travel photographer George Tapan at Greenbelt 3, Ayala Center, Makati. Tapan photographed the City of Lights with particular attention to the capital's bright colours, which he further emphasized through a process called solarization. The exhibit runs until June 19. Call 857-6920.

Other Super! 24/7 events this week:

### June 4, Saturday

DJ Ricky Stone at Embassy; Pinikpikan at 70s Bistro; Paseo Uno Lounge with Elian Habayeb and percussionist Egay Caole; Soundsgood DJs at Embassy Cuisine; DJs Patch and Paolo Abaya at Absinth; Dancehall Saturdays at V Bar; Soulistic Saturday at Prince of Jaipur; Massive Saturdays at Bed; Kevin Ruiz at Government; Kearney Street at Dusit Hotel; Mai Castro at Café Havana Greenbelt; Arriba at Café Havana Malate; French Film Festival at Greenbelt 1 Cinemas; La Visa Loca at theaters nationwide; Torremolinos 73 at Instituto Cervantes de Manila; Kuh Ledesma at Captain's Bar

### June 5, Sunday

La Visa Loca at theaters nationwide; French Film Festival at Greenbelt 1 Cinemas; Paris Off Color at Greenbelt 3; Reggae Mistress at Café Havana Greenbelt

### June 6, Monday

Satya Jazz Band at Westin Philippine Plaza; Mayonnaise at 70s Bistro; I Don't Like Mondays! with DJ Ro at Gweilos; Soul Seduction with DJ Patch at Absinth; Acoustic Night at Temple; French Film Festival at Greenbelt 1 Cinemas; Onda Latina at Café Havana Greenbelt; Route 70 at Dusit Hotel; Human Race at Suburbia

### June 7, Tuesday

Velvet Party with DJ Scratchmark at Absinth; Guarana at Café Havana Greenbelt; French Colors at Francisco Santiago Hall; French Film Festival at Greenbelt 1 Cinemas; Bloomfields at Dish; Spirit of 67 at Captain's Bar; Mocha & Spin Art at Dusit Hotel; Extreme at Suburbia; Anya Santos With Edgar Avenir & Simon Tan at 70's Bistro

### June 8, Wednesday

French Colors at Ayala Museum; Superklasse with Johnyverse and Mars Miranda at Embassy; Singles Night at Temple; Paolo Santos at 70s Bistro; Ladies Night at Prince of Jaipur; Come As You Are: 90s Music at Absinth; Sing India Band at Bollywood; Way Back Wednesdays at Bed; Bernie Uy at Dusit Hotel; Arriba at Café Havana Greenbelt; Guarana at Café Havana Malate

### June 9, Thursday

RIDDM with DJ Patch at Absinth; The Dawn at 70s Bistro; VEN at V Bar; Area 1 at Dish; French Film Festival at Greenbelt 1 Cinemas; La Visa Loca at theaters nationwide; Phuture Thursdays at Bed; Chocolate Milk at Government; Myxtreme and Silk at Dusit Hotel; Onda Latina at Café Havana Greenbelt; Reggae Mistress at Café Havana Malate

### June 10, Friday

Decadance with Boyet Almazan at Jill's; Sound and Drip at Nicotina; 80s Giraffe Night with Erick Maniquis at Absinth; Musik at Embassy; CouchLab DJs at Embassy Cuisine; The Jerks at 70s Bistro; Xander Angeles exhibit at Power Plant Mall, Rockwell; Kuh Ledesma at Captain's Bar; Jive Fridays at Temple; Gogo Fridays at Bed; Bam del Valle at Government; Human Race at Dish; Fantastic Friday at Prince of Jaipur; Arriba at Café Havana Greenbelt; Mai Castro at Café Havana Malate; Nyoy and Mannos at Suburbia

Schedules may change without prior notice. For more information and a complete listing of events, text 24/7 through your mobile phone and send to 2949 for Globe and 209 for Smart. Win P1 million, Ipod Shuffles weekly and a Peugeot! Log on to www.mag24-7.com or pick up your free copy of 24/7 Nocturnal Navigator at bars and restaurants around the city. Submit your schedules before Wednesday to e-mail address events@mag24-7.com and mag24_7@yahoo.com or fax number 892-0689.

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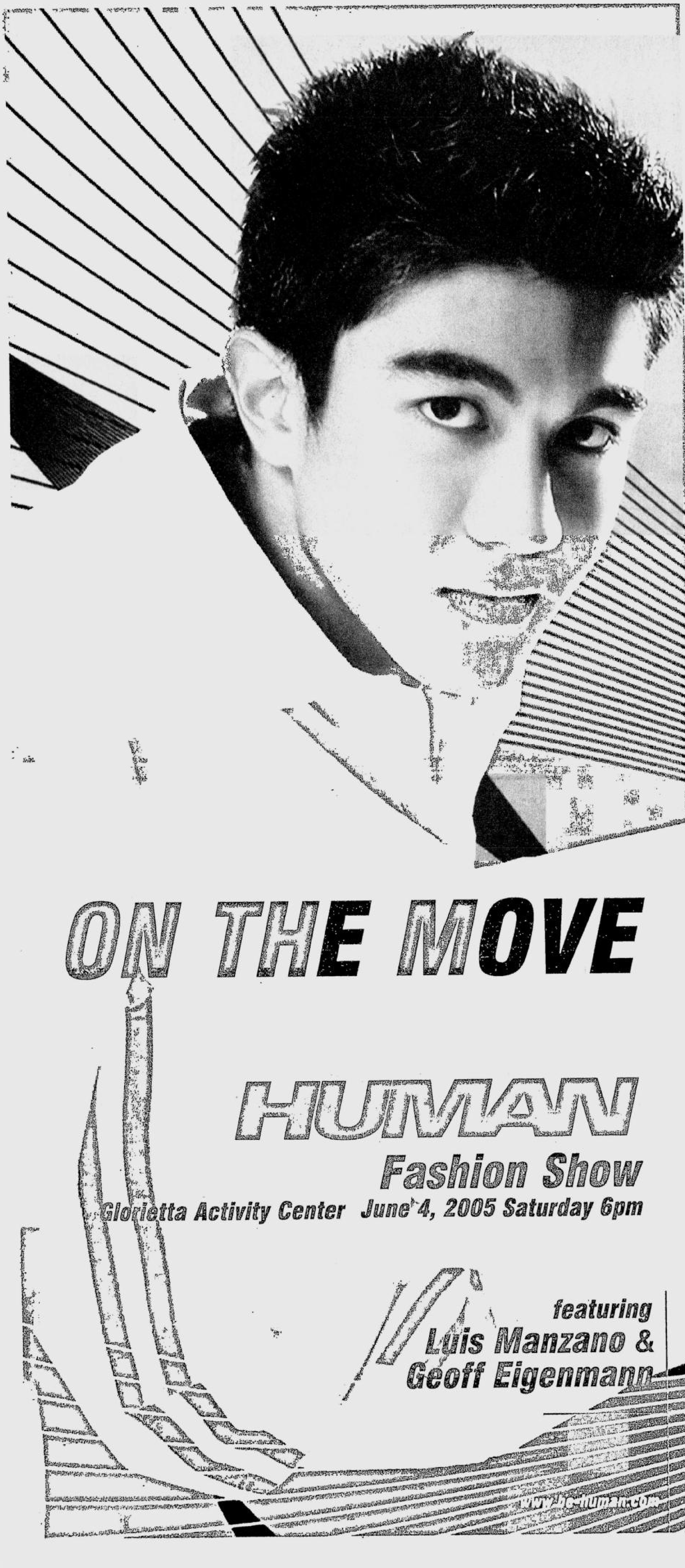


STEP into my office...

# Two for the road

From page D1

passion that lends respect to any venture. If you want to be an actress, well, work on being the best damn actress there is! Wanna be a model? Then learn the difference between turning right and left (trust me, I've encountered more than a few on the ramp who can't tell the diff). Whatever endeavor you choose, punctuate it with passion (unless of course you want to be a drug runner, I can't help you there.) Substance should always override superficiality. The fame follows naturally.

**People like to trace people.** It's a mark of Manila's two-degree of separation society. How many times have we been introduced to someone and become reduced to a name in a network of names? You're either the classmate of so-and-so, of batch so-and-so from this-or-that university. It's this kind of mindset that has spawned a whole generation of Friendsters, a.k.a., people who like tracing people. Truth to tell, I have never completely understood its appeal to this day. Why do I need to write down all this cool stuff about me to send into vast cyberspace when I could, well, be using that time to do cool stuff in the real world? To quote fellow Super! columnist Gino de la Paz, "it's time to make real friends and not friendsters."

**The art film subculture is the backlash of too much reality.** Give me any Dali-esque opening film sequence from Luis Buñuel where an eyeball resembling an egg yolk is slit in half, over a wide-eyed country chick double-guessing whether her suitors are gay or straight! With too much mind-numbing, cheesy reality shows on TV (of which the end seems nowhere in immediate sight), anything that infuses a modicum of fantasy and creativity is a welcome respite. People are hungry for some imagination, so they're lapping up "Lost" and "Desperate Housewives" on TV, or scanning the "Dibidi" shelves for pirated films that would at least make use of their cerebral cortex.

**Everyone's on something.** The problem with artificial highs is that it makes it harder and harder to recognize the natural. 'Nuff said.

**Too much texting has ravaged interpersonal communication skills.** When I get that feeling, I want textual healing. Technological leaps and bounds in streamlining communication have somehow caused a degree of depersonalization. Imagine that, the absence of a smiley emoticon (eh?) on an SMS message can actually wreak havoc on budding relationships. Or a seemingly harmless response "K" can open up a Pandora's box of emotions. And with messages like, "L C U der" or "Fo sho! Jaz go hr anytym," I'd say English teachers are today's unsung heroes. But we aren't the world's texting capital for nothing—just try exhibiting your thumb prowess in front of an expat, and be prepared to garner more than a few "oohs" and "aaaahs!"

**Those who bitch too much about the country probably don't make the effort to see more of it.** I've said it many times, minus the cheese: I love the Philippines. Okay, so I may have more than a few things on my wish list for it, but it's something I think more young people should work on. Take time out to actually see it. We have a beautiful country, so why is it so hard to find people who actually believe in it? The formula is simple: if you love it, you'd respect it. If you love our beaches, you won't dump your cigarette butts on the shores. If you love the city, you won't piss on it. If you respect yourself, you won't frontstab the culture that made you so!

**Taking the road less traveled really does make a difference.** Two roads diverged in a modern 'hood. One was paved, and had neon-lit signs which read "career," "marriage," and "babies." The other had signs too, but they were blank, for its travelers to write on. To more and more young people, I say fear not the less traveled road; be not afraid of carving your own path with different designs and new ideas. You'll never know—those crazy ideas might just change the world.

Here's to our second anniversary of Staying Super! and all that "chuva," and to more adventures stepping Out the Window.

**E-mail:** super@inquirer.com.ph
**Text us your feedback:** inquirer sup name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

2nd Anniversary issue
style . urban living . pop culture . entertainment . recreation

# Anti-It

## (and eat it two!)

### 20 other spots to give you that Super! fix

By Gino de la Paz, Tals Diaz, Pam Pastor and James Gabrillo

REEKING of Kiehl's Coconut Enriched Hair Masque, Extra Joss-fortified San Mig Light, and vegetarian samosas, your slightly insane but well-meaning Super! team went on a mission this week. No, we didn't plane in to L.A. to testify in the Michael Jackson trial. Neither did we plane in to L.A. for the Ate Guy trial. In fact, what we did didn't involve any planes at all. (Yeah, we flew but that's another story. Wink.) But back to the matter at hand.

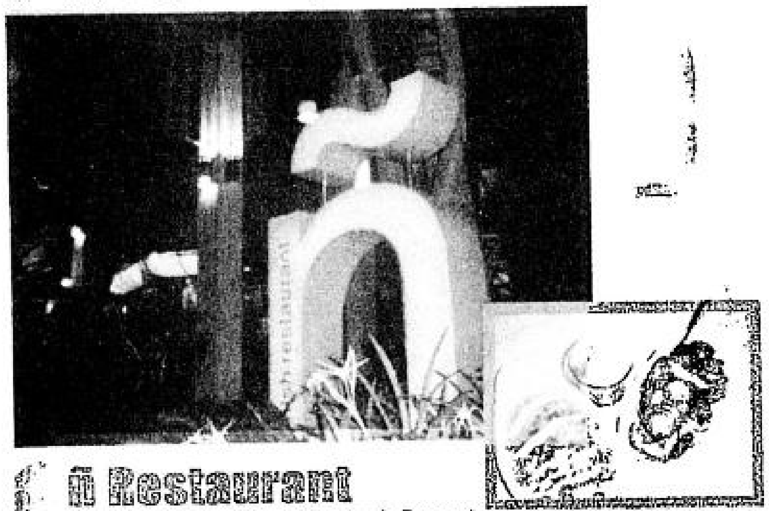
Sick of bouncers, passwords and door bitches, we—meaning our multiple personalities—ate and drank around the city in search of bars and restaurants with a certain "It." Scratch that—we meant "anti-It."

The result? The Super! Anti-It Black Book. Well, that and a really upset stomach.

We're spilling the 411 on twenty hot spots where you can have over-the-top fun while staying under-the-radar cool.

If you see us in any of these places, please don't forget to say hey. We just might buy you a drink.

> Is it still possible to have over-the-top fun while staying under-the-radar cool in a VIP-obsessed town like Manila? Hey, we're not called Super! for nothing, you know



### ñ Restaurant

Rockwell Center (above Brother's Burger)
Happy Hour: 6 to 8 p.m.

The vibe: Say salud! to the hipper side of Spain

The lowdown: Now THIS place is one of the city's best kept secrets, which we're happy to spill, one sangria at a time. Just like the Spanish, ñ has elevated lounging to an art form, notably with its comfy and tastefully designed interiors and chocolatey-smooth music playing on the speakers—In fact, the place seems to jump right out of the pages of Wallpaper magazine. And that's only scratching the surface!

ñ has concocted something truly original—a Sangria bar that serves potent, super yummy sangrias of all flavors. Get happily sloshed on some of our chosen poisions: the Sangria Naranja (with orange and white wine), the Coco Banana Sangria (which just transports you to a hammock on the beach), the Sangria Rose (a polite, girly-girl drink) and our—hic!—favorite, the Sangria Fuerte, which is mixed with vodka and gin. May we be so bold and lightheaded to predict that sangria is the new red wine?

Sabrosa! That's what you'll be exclaiming once you've tried the food, which is absolutely delicious. ñ has a wide menu of authentic, mouth-watering Spanish *tapas* that simply goes perfect with your chilled-out state of being. Don't leave without trying the boquerones (pickled anchovies, a Spanish favorite), the pinchos de ternera envuelta, pincho de lomo and chorizo bilbao. Of course, there's the traditional Spanish fave, paella, which got all our thumbs up.

If you come in on Wednesdays, Fridays or Saturdays, you'll get a sampling of the house DJs playing Latin House, bossa nova and electronica music. It's smooth, baby, smooooth!

### Yaku Japanese Bar and Grill

Somerset Millennium Hotel, 104 Aguirre St., Legaspi Village, Makati City
Phone: 888-0505 loc. 73 or 888-9097

The vibe: "Johnny Walker-induced Zen on the rocks. Holla!"

The lowdown: What do you get when you mix mouth-watering Japanese treats, alcohol and live band music? Oh! Yaku!

A byword when it comes to under-the-radar cool in Legaspi Village, Yaku Japanese Bar and Grill is a favorite among barflies who want to have fun without compromising their intimacy. Thursdays, however, get crazy as Overtone plays to a young, boozy, pre-weekend crowd.

Yaku's clients stay loyal because the establishment is sophisticated but approachable. Part owner Richie Garcia put it this way. "Yaku is a unique place that serves exotic Japanese food and it's also a sake bar." You have been warned.

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   - 7Up 1.5 L PET plastic bottle
   - Mountain Dew 330 mL can
   - Mountain Dew 500 mL PET plastic bottle
   - Mountain Dew 1.5 L PET plastic bottle
   - Mug 330 mL
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4. Upon presenting the winning stub to the store clerk, customers get any of the following prizes instantly:
   - BATMAN BEGINS. Lunch Bag
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WARNER BROS. PICTURES

Per DTI-NCR permit no. 1418, series of 2005

# Anti-It (and eat it two!

## Gweilos

109 C. Palanca St., Legaspi Village, Makati City
Phone: 817-6083

The vibe: "I don't give a shit if you look ratty. I love you anyway."

The lowdown: Westernized slang for what the Chinese called the Caucasians that came to their land, the name Gweilos has also come to mean "a badass place to down pitchers and pitchers of beer." At least, that's our definition.

Like, how can you not? The music they play—a mix of Kaiser Chiefs, The Killers and early-period Blur when we were there—is ace and the atmosphere is totally chillaxed and unpretentious.

On weekends, Gweilos is packed with expats and college kids whom, we assume, are having too much fun to care about seeing and being seen. And believe it or not, this bar is also open as early as 11 a.m. (Mondays to Fridays) and closes at around 3 a.m. or when the last drunken bastard decides to give his/her liver a break. On Saturdays, Gweilos is ready to rumble at 6 p.m. just in case you want a head start on that Sunday hangover. Rock n' roll!

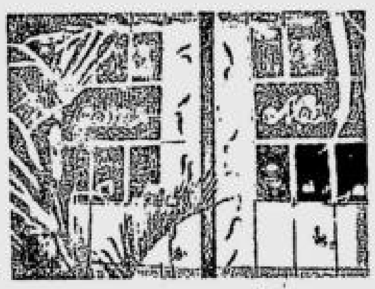
## GAUDI

4th Level Greenbelt 3, Ayala C
Phone: 757-2710
E-mail: gaudi@i-manila.com.p

The vibe: For señoritos like their food with a view

The lowdown: Okay, so mall, but nevertheless, Gau aged to make it as part of simply because it has piece mosaic, elements of a great

Resting peaceably up ab on the fourth level of Gre fers a great view of founta below. The balcony right o place for a romantic date. hang on the walls and abo bly in honor of the restau Antoni Gaudi of the Sagra These mosaics are origi



## Cosa Nostra

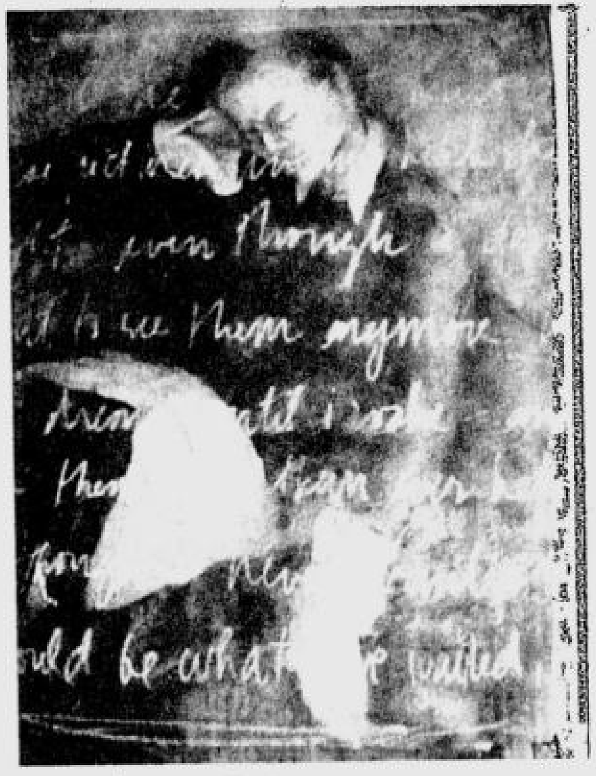
1951 M. Adriatico St., Malate, Manila
Phone: 523-7889

The vibe: "Don't tell your boyfriend/girlfriend I bring you here, okay?"

The lowdown: More like the down-low. Cosa Nostra has been a fixture along busy Adriatico St. for 21 years now. (Hey, that's older than some of our Super! writers and readers!)

It's easy to see why it has lasted this long. The musty smell of antique furniture notwithstanding, it's the food—duh!—that draws the crowds in. Pasta? Check! Minestrone? Yup! A perfect date place? Hell yeah! (Okay, we got carried away there, but it's that charming we can't help it.)

Cosa Nostra is open everyday from 1130 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. for lunch and 6 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. for dinner. On Sundays, however, they only serve dinner, which is fine since their finely tuned kitchen deserves a rest, too.



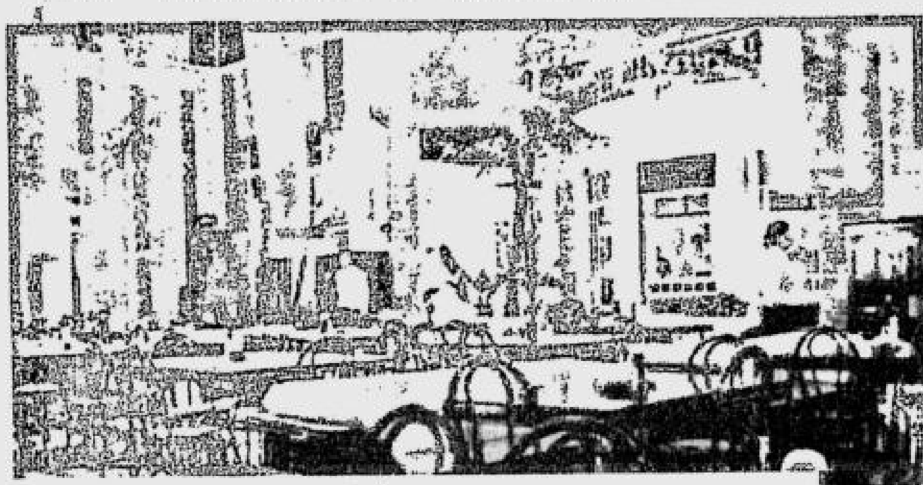
## LUCE

34 Jupiter Street, Makati, 3F Montivar Build

The vibe: Wide-eyed dreamy cool

The lowdown: Wonder where all the beautiful, netherworldy paintings of the unforgettable Malate haunt, Insomia, now hang? Those dreamy artworks have now found a new home, a cozy, stylish space that has become the ideal alternative for the beautiful and dare we say clever crowd who favors good conversation among close friends over lung failures from shouting above loud clubby music. Luce just emits that too-cool-to-follow-rules vibe. Its clandestine location, for one, adds wonderfully to the Gaiman-esque mystery: it's somewhere along Jupiter Street, but don't blink or you may just miss it!

If you're there with an empty stomach, we definitely suggest you try the crispy pata—which is probably one of the best in the city. Or nibble on the cheese sticks while swilling the Kamikazes—also a must drink. Luce's owner Rem Zamora, known for his



## Nicotina Garden Pavilion

Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City (near the Department of Foreign Affairs Building)
Phone: 551-7906 to 07
Fax: 833-8316
E-mail: nicotina@pldtdsl.net

The vibe: "So, this is what happens when you pimp your lolo's crib!"

The lowdown: Located far, far away from the toxic playground known as Greenbelch-er, Greenbelt-Nicotina is a relaxed trattoria that can seat up to 300. Aside from the high ceilings and overall positive chi, the place serves really yummy Italian dishes.

Their thin-crust pizzas are excellent and run from P290 to P1400, with Frutti di Mare and Prosciutto e Funghi as the runaway bestsellers. (P1400? That's their meter-long pizza, Pizza Un Metro.) If your palate and wallet crave something else, though, Nicotina's menu also includes to-die-for soups, seafood, sandwiches and homemade gelati. Burp. Scuzi.

Oh yeah, their bar rocks, too.

## Swagat Indian Cuisine

119 FCC Building, Rada St., Legaspi Village, Makati City
Phone: 752-5669
Telefax: 888-2560

The vibe: "People of the world, spice up your life!"

The lowdown: This tiny restaurant with a big heart has been slowly but steadily gaining word-of-mouth success among the city's more discriminating diners.

A mix of dishes from various regions across India, Swagat's menu has the whole authentic spicy thing down pat. Their rogan josh, a lamb dish with cream sauce, is perfect on rice or chapati. But don't stop there. Their paneers (cottage cheese dishes with spices and, like, stuff) are also must-tries. End your meal with chai or chai masala and find out that the milky Indian tea being served at chain coffee places is really battery acid. And we also have it on good authority that Swagat is one of the few—if not the only—Indian restaurant that serves kulfi, which is ice cream but, like, better.

Tightwads can rejoice since prices are way affordable. (See, for a minimum order of P500, you can have a home-cooked Indian feast delivered to your doorstep. Yay!) Rabbit food lovers can also join in the fun since Swagat is vegetarian-friendly. When you do swing by, look for the owner, Komal, and tell her Super! says "Hey!"

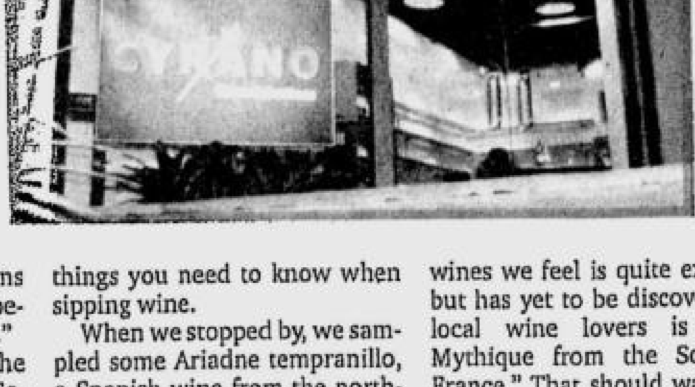
## Capone's

G/F Fraser Place, Valero Street, Salcedo Village, Maka
Phone: 816-4394

The vibe: Crashing your own living room with friends from the band, playing your favorite music.

The lowdown: There must be something in the scotch they serve at Capone's, because for some reason, they attract such a loyal, eclectic mix of barflies who actually get along with each other. From necktied yuppies to dreadlocked bohos, rockers to hip hoppers, the well-heeled and the flip-flopped, artistas and musicians, the Gen X-ers, and the post-80s born breed who get macked on by the Gen-X-ers ("listen to the lyrics such powerful words of Bon Jovi! You don't know Bon Jovi???").

Perhaps that's what makes Capone's click: it's a serious bar that doesn't take itself seriously (kinda like our college days!) With spacious split-level interiors, one can hang around the ba inside or the lanai outside while listening to the live bands performing each night. The second floor is a smoker-friendly zone. This place ha such a free flowing spontaneous and easygoing vibe, so much so that you'll have nights when the live band would play glam rock anthems fo hours, and actually welcome a few brazen, ine briated folks to come up on stage and displa their vocal cords. Or you could walk in and b welcomed by a voice on the mike announcing "thank you for coming to Capone's, *wala kamin*



## Cyrano Wine Selections

Upper G/F Legaspi Parkview Condominium, 134 Legaspi St., corner C. Palanca St.,
Legaspi Village, Makati City
Phone: 750-2595

The vibe: "We know tons about wine and stuff and hopefully, after tonight, so will you."

The lowdown: Don't let the space fool you. Cyrano Wine Selections may be small but they're chockfull of Bacchanalian goodies.

If you want to upgrade yourself from "plain drunkard" to "wine connoisseur," this place can lace you up with most of the things you need to know when sipping wine.

When we stopped by, we sampled some Ariadne tempranillo, a Spanish wine from the northern area, Ribera del Duero. We were also lucky enough to have tried Crane Lake chardonnay from Napa Valley, California.

One of the hands-on owners, Alex Sawit, says there's a lot more wine to taste. "One of the wines we feel is quite excellent but has yet to be discovered by local wine lovers is Cuvée Mythique from the South of France." That should warrant a return trip soon.

The peeps at Cyrano are also proud of their Illy coffee. "We serve Illy espresso better than anybody in town," Alex brags. "We can back that up by making you a cup."

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nter, Makati

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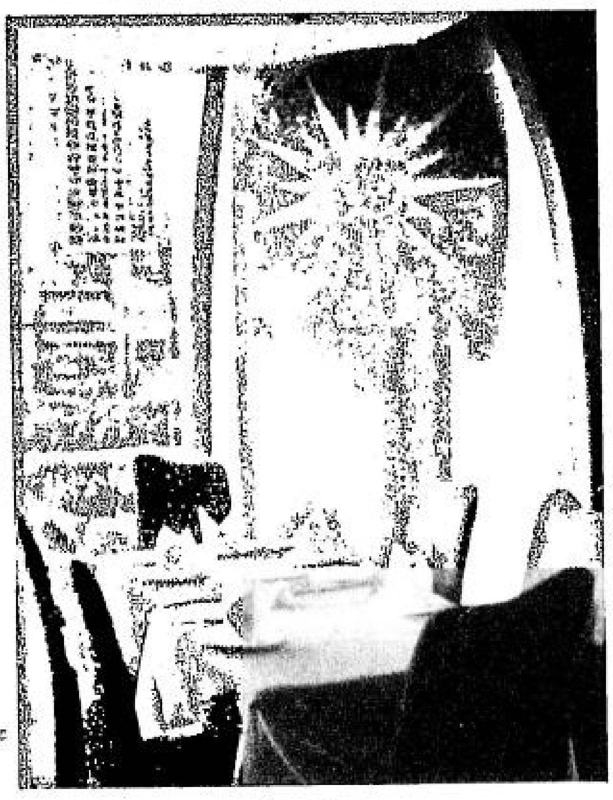
ı Familia fame.
l creations of

Nicole Cacho. Gaudi's chef and owner Alexandra Cacho was professionally trained at Malaga in Spain, and has transported some of the best recipes to our very shores.

The menu offers specialties from various regions of Spain, from Catalan, Malaga, Asturia and Villagodio. What is certainly making mouths water (and spill the word) is the Chuleton de Villagodio, or the Angus prime rib steak grilled Villagodio style on your very table. Savor it with the *tapas* selections on the menu, like the croquetas or chorizo. Gaudi likewise has a wide variety of Spanish wines, as well as some Chilean and Australian selections. Que rico!



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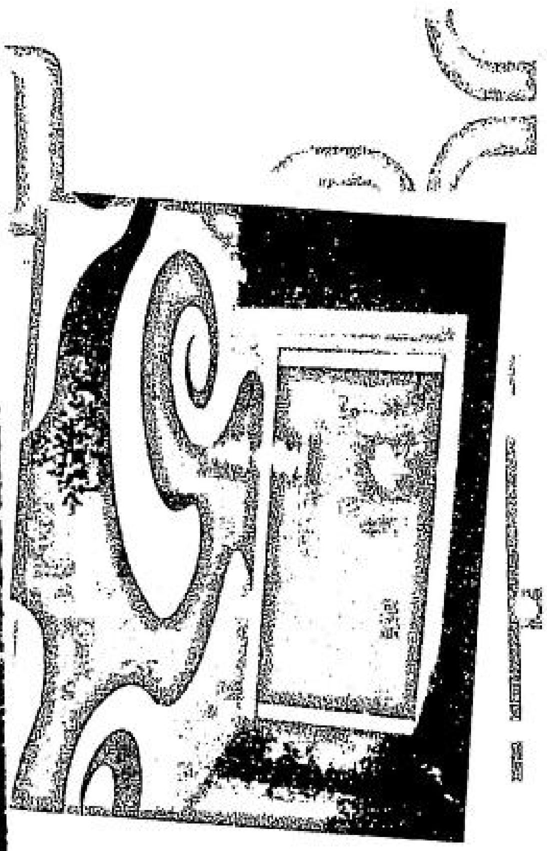

st experience in the bar scene chalk-
; up the likes of Insomia and Orange
his resumé, shares that Luce has be-
me a favored pre and post gimmick
stipation for the city's night owls.
on the other hand like this place so
ıch that it is its own weekend desti-
tion. Almost like stepping into a
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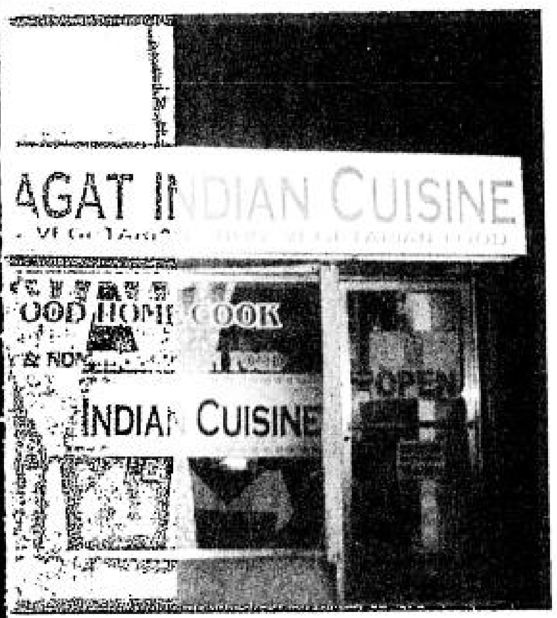
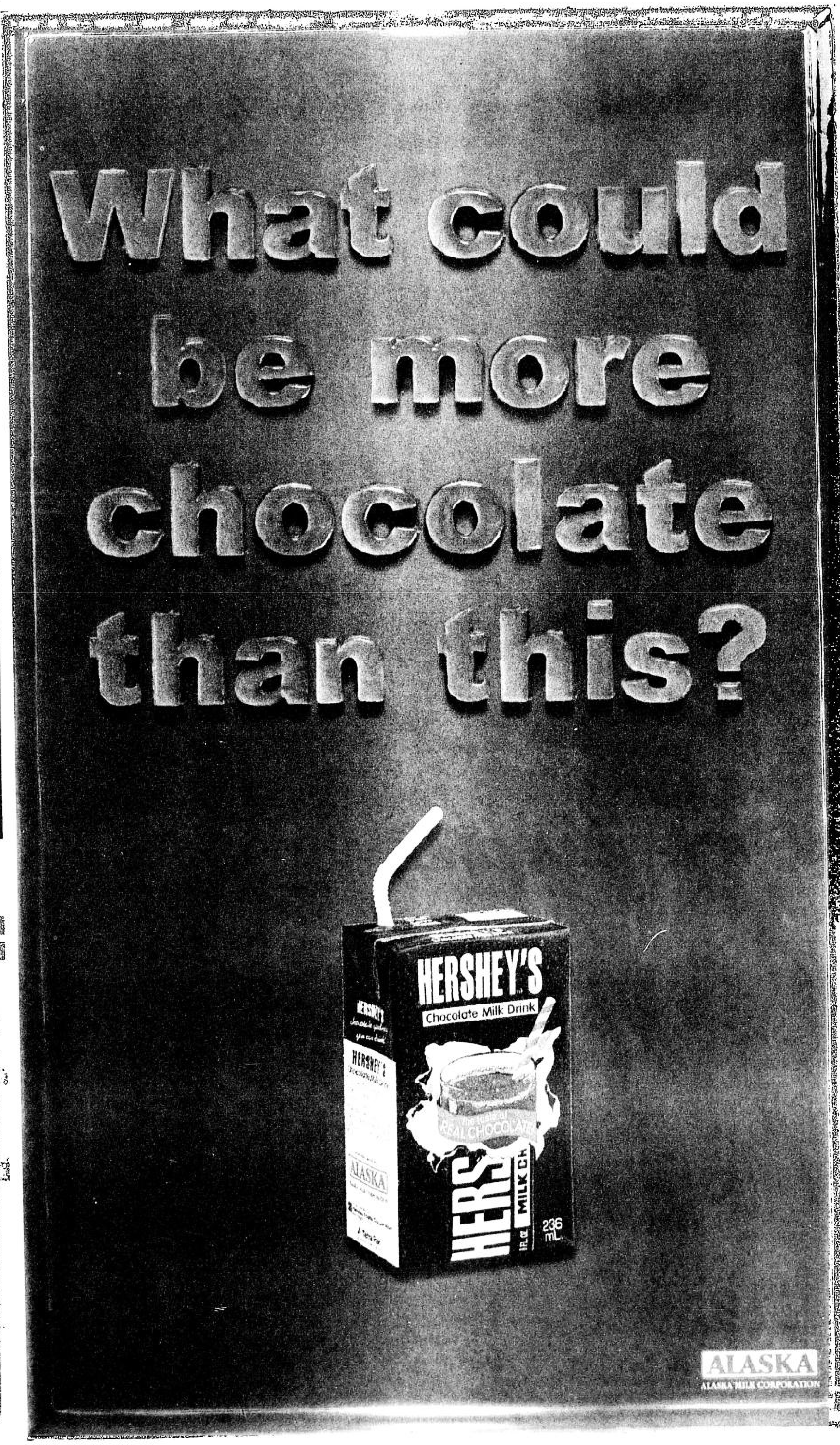


sword *dito!*" Loyal patrons would certainly
ne Jay Server, the godfather of this favorite
ınt, as an attraction in his own right. Jay's hu-
r is infectious, and it just permeates the bar's
ıosphere. No one can resist his steely vocals
e his own... um, band—Craig Davis and the
v Waves—finds the spotlight and prompts
to sing "Friday I'm in Love." Yep, it's a surreal
d of fun that makes you keep coming back, a
like your own living room except with cooler
sts.



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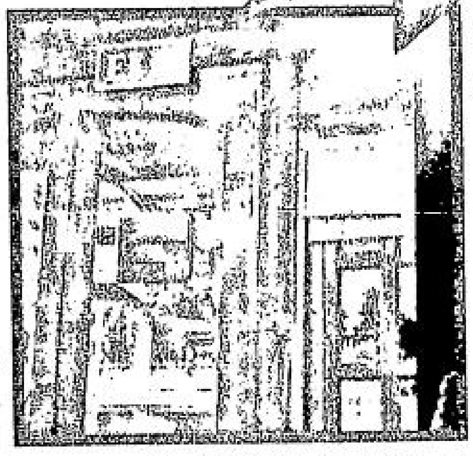
# Anti-It (and eat it two!)



## A Taste of L.A. Cafe

171 A. Roces Ave. cor. Tomas Morato, Quezon City (Open from 11:30 a.m. to 2 a.m. from Monday to Saturday and 11:30 a.m. to 12 midnight on Sundays)

Phone: 374-2461

The vibe: "My wife will never find us here."

The lowdown: There are two ways to enter and leave this multi-storey restaurant, ideal for times when you feel like making a Houdini-esque disappearing act. The atmosphere is relaxed, ideal for hanging out—especially if you get one of the booths.

One good reason to keep returning to A Taste of L.A. Cafe is their spinach pizza—thin crust smothered with double layers of mozzarella, spinach and bacon. If you're a vegetarian, you can ask them to hold the bacon for a meatless treat.

Try their pasta and *chicharon bulaklak* too. Good stuff.

COCO CABANA SIZZLERS & GRILLS

## Coco Cabana

Kalayaan street, Makati

The vibe: Just add sand! A tropical oasis in the concrete jungle

The lowdown: Eternal beach bums stuck in the city would certainly find a shore thing at Coco Cabana. A tropical-inspired restau-bar replete with coconut trees, nipa accents, wooden tribal totems and an outdoor patio, it's hard not to feel like you're somewhere in Boracay even if there are, well, cars parked outside.

Coco Cabana has become a favorite weeknight-to-weekday hangout, with a menu that's really easy on the wallet. The beer is super! cheap, as with the other favorite cocktails on the drink list—so to paraphrase that TV commercial spiel, *matagal-tagal ang inuman!* Traditional Pinoy favorites like pork and tuna sisig, chicken barbecue and *chicharon bulaklak* are comfort food choices meant to be shared with a generous serving of garlic rice.

Live bands playing reggae, rock and RnB add to the tropical allure. Bet if you wore your bikini and boardies you'd fit right in!

## Saguijo Café

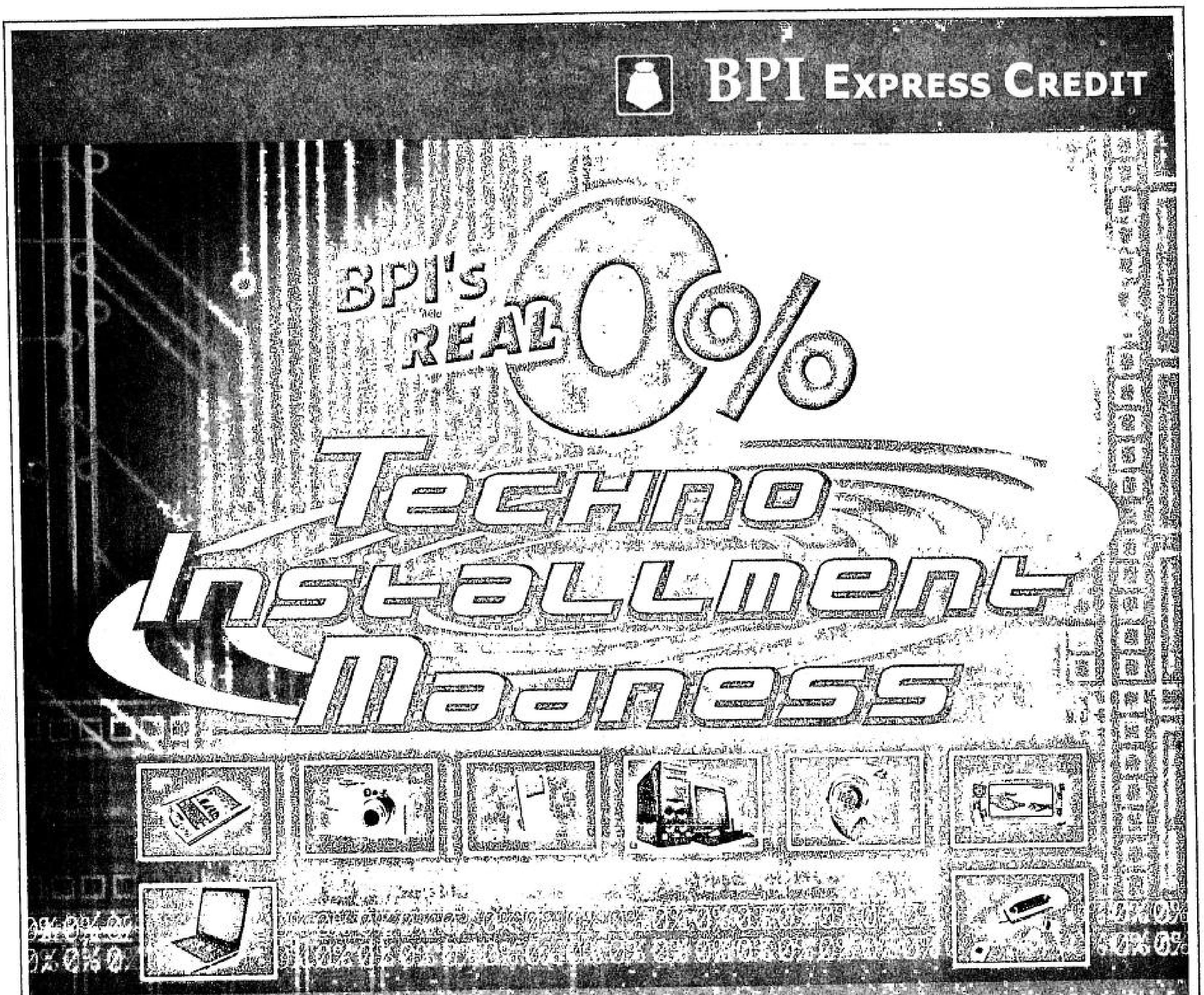
7612 Guijo St., San Antonio Village, Makati

Phone: 897-8629

The vibe: "Life's a bitch and then you die but for everything else there's music and friends."

The lowdown: Yearning to let your hair down with unadulterated fun and great conversations with friends? Saguijo Café is the head honcho of all anti-it spots in *'Pinas*. Its tagline claims that "it is always about the music" and believe us, it's true. Plus, not only does it provide spanking bright unsigned bands a venue to perform alongside more recognized acts, it also pushes avant garde visual art through The Theo Gallery situated on the second floor and it vends eclectic clothing, accessories and finds in the I Love You store also found on the upper floor.

The best thing about Saguijo is that it bestows a complete new vibe to the word "underground"—as artists of all kinds share dreams and thoughts and their tactics of implementing them in its minute yet homely locale. Saguijo verifies that the ruling set of the world is the creative set.



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## Lolo Dad's

899 Pres. Quirino Ave. corner Leon Guinto St. Malate (Open on Mondays for dinner. On Tuesdays to Saturdays, they serve lunch and dinner)

Phone: 524-2295

The vibe: Lolo's house of indulgence—if lolo is a five-star chef.

The lowdown: We're pretty sure that if the Zagat gods came to Manila, they'd have good things to say about Lolo Dad's.

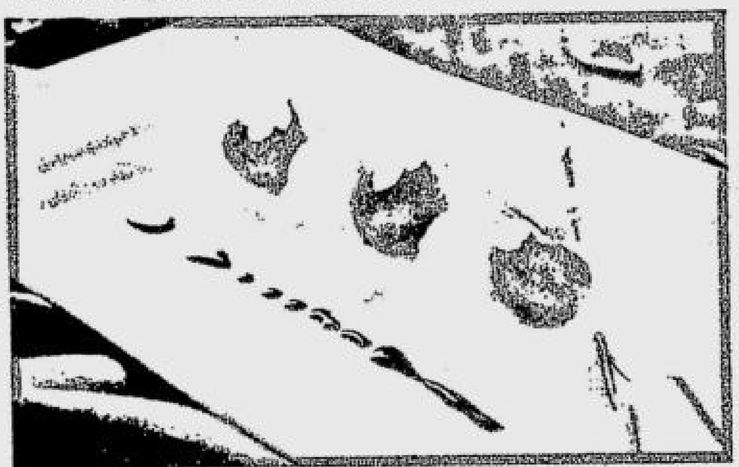
About how you can dine in peace without worrying about your friends crashing your date, about the remarkable service, about the great food.

Oh god, the food.

SARA BLACK

Lolo Dad's is famous for its foie gras (Seared French Moulard Duck Foie Gras with poached pear, highland greens and black vinegar reduction) and lamb (Herb de Provence Crusted Rack of Lamb on blue cheese risotto and forty melted garlic-tomato confit). Other musts include the Romaine Caesar Salad with home smoked Greek Feta cheese and crispy pancetta, Almost-Nicoise Salad (lightly seared fresh big eye tuna, quail eggs, potatoes and kalamata olives over early gathered lettuce), the pigeon (Crispy Pigeon Leg Confit and Lightly Smoked Pigeon Breast with Mediterranean Fried Rice and Shallot Jus), sea bass or halibut (Fillet of Halibut and Scallops and sauteed Fungi-Open Ravioli with Basil Pesto and Garlic Chips) and Steamed Chilean Sea Bass with Light Ginger-Chive Smear in Caviar-Lemon Butter Sauce. End your meal with Declension of Mango and Mascarpone Cheese with Caramel Sauce and Pistachio-Green Tea Ice Cream, a memorably delightful dessert, or the Eight Spice Dark Valrhona Chocolate Fondue with Walnut Dough Pop and White Valrhona Chocolate Ice Cream.

The menu is a "bit" pricey, but everyone needs to have one unforgettably good meal at least once in their life. A tip for guys—take your Super! girl here. Nothing says "you blow my mind" better than a slab of foie gras. Except maybe a tattoo on your forehead.



## Bellini's

Marikina Shoe Expo Cubao, Quezon City (Open daily from 10 a.m. to 1

Phone: 913-2550

The vibe: Like being invited to the house of your Italian neighbors for dinner—if you had Italian neighbors and they actually liked you.

The lowdown: Roberto Bellini had spent thirty years chasing celebrities like Madonna, Princess Diana and Princess Caroline of Monaco around with his camera as a paparazzo in Italy before falling in love with a Filipina who later on became his wife. After spending a decade in Italy, they returned to Manila and opened Bellini's, a cozy restaurant that sits in the middle of Cubao madness. The walls are covered with photographs that Roberto had taken during his days as a journalist, as well as murals and plates that had been signed by local celebrity patrons.

But you don't really go to Bellini's to bump into your favorit
there for the food and to
Roberto, whose style is s
he table-hops regularly
his patrons are enjoying

And there's good re
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tini with Salmon, Pasta
Pappardelle Bolognese
Seafood, Fettuccine wit
Cream, Orange Cake an
The pizzas are great for
dulge in Vino Samto,
wine concoction.

Try not to get intox
You'd need a clear mind
friends how they can ge

## Ato's Rack Billiards and Coffeenista

ATO Building J. Aguilar Avenue, Casimiro or CAA Road Talon Tres, Las Piñas City. (Open from Mondays to Saturdays from 5 p.m. onwards. On Sundays, only Ato's 1 is open.)

Phone: 874-5729 or 0917-5329853

E-mail atosrack@lycos.com and atosrackcoffeenista@lycos.com

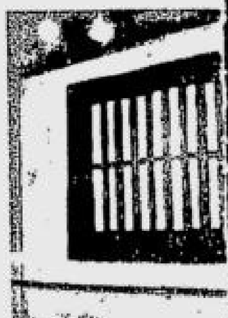
The vibe: Hanging out at your college barkada's house—if they had a really cool house.

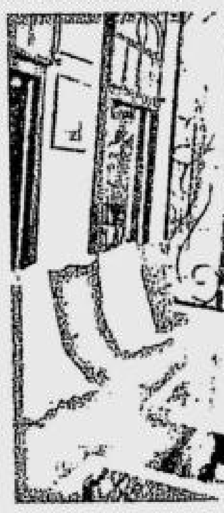
The lowdown: It takes two twentysomethings to know the kind of place that can keep you occupied for hours. Run by siblings Marco and Meryl-Ann Miranda, Ato's Rack Billiards and Coffeenista brings together the coziness of a coffee shop and the irresistible pull of a videoke hangout. There are also two billiards areas—one for smokers and another for nonsmokers. Beanbags, plush chairs and throw pillows are all over the place, an open invite for anyone to sink into their comfortable softness. Aside from billiards and videoke, you can also enjoy games of darts and chess and even go online. And if you're hungry, the kitchen is always ready to churn out goodies—pasta (Tuna, Ragout and Alfredo), Hungarian sausage (P60), sandwiches, crepes, ice cream, pastries, shakes, cappuccinos and fraps.

The rates for both the food and the activities are unbelievably low. An hour of karaoke will only set you back P100—and that's even consumable.

The people behind Ato's Rack take care of their loyal patrons, constantly coming out with new promos for regulars.

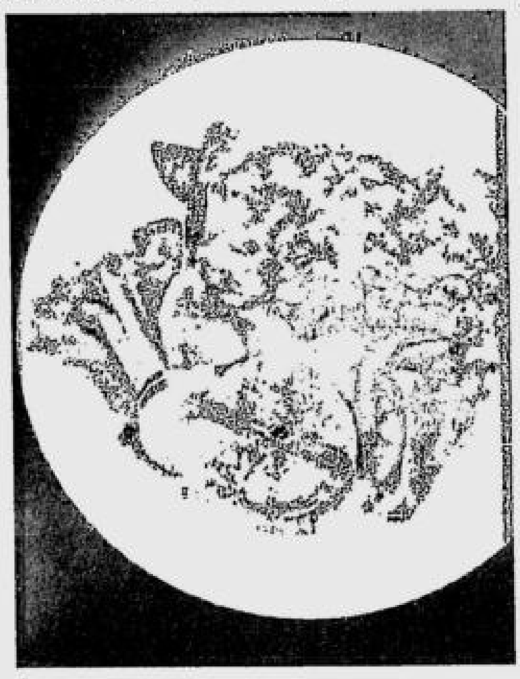
Make yourself at home—just remember, you'd have to leave at the end of the night.





# Anti-It (and eat it two!)

Photos by Pam Pastor



## Moksha Resto & Bar

713 Abad Santos Place corner Wilson St. San Juan, Greenhills. It's open every day from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 a.m. The place may also be reserved for parties.

Phone: 723-8314 or 0916-2504592

The vibe: Casual and classy, fusion—not confusion

The lowdown: Liz Montealegre and Glenn Yap met in a bar one night. Many stories that begin this way end in regret (or worse) but not theirs. Years after their paths first crossed, Liz and Glenn put up Moksha, originally an Indian-themed restaurant before the owners decided to make a 360-degree turn. Moksha, which means "salvation" in Hindi, continues to serve good food—a fusion of Asian and European favorites.

After the sun sets, Moksha transforms from a restaurant to a nightspot—with drinks overflowing and chillout music playing.

Try the Crisped Open Wanton, Chicken Corn Salad, Vegetable Indian Soup, Stuffed Chicken Skewers with Spicy Mango Sauce, Mama's Homemade Italian Spaghetti, Pasta Aligue, German Sausages in Mustard Sauce, Pork Belly Burst, Pork Fillet Mignon in Sherry Sauce and the Moksha Platter (grilled beef, sausages, chicken and fish served with roesti, green beans and vegetables, P650).

We wonder if there's salvation for gluttons.

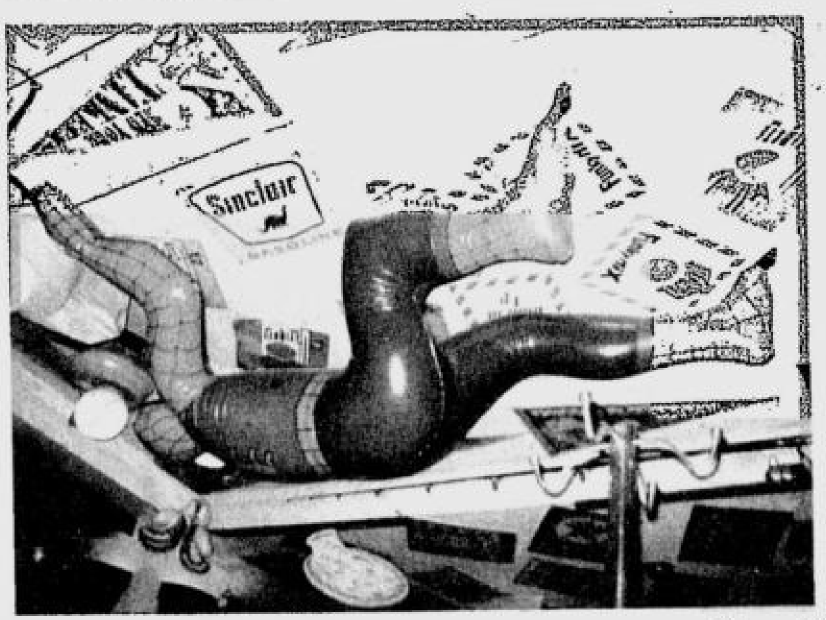
## Maestro Lounge

Nicanor Garcia (formerly Reposo street) Makati City

The vibe: Turn the lights low and the volume up in this party-ready enclave.

The lowdown: It's been called Makati's latest secret, but since we're not that good with keeping our mouths shut, we'd like to finally expose this hip little space along Reposo street. Spacious and cozy woodern interiors, sofas and candlelight make it the perfect setting for those who want to listen and dance to progressive electronica music and not have to face Nazi-like door bouncers. It's like being in a private, secret party where everyone's actually happy you cracked the secret code of its location.

Starting this Saturday, treat your ears to some audio candy with the hip-happy drum and bass, funk and house sets from Superfly. Whether you're in the mood for lounging around like a crippled sloth or want to bust your ass on the dance floor, this place has somehow cooked up the right atmosphere to suit your mood.



## Filling Station

5012 P. Burgos St. Makati (Open 24 hours)

Phone: 897-2053

The vibe: Expats and their escorts, dreamers and their dates, college kids and corporate slaves mingle in a diner that doubles as a 50s time capsule.

The lowdown: Filling Station is a haven for people who get hunger pangs at 3 in the morning. This old Super! favorite sits in the center of Makati's red light district and whips up delightful dishes for happy patrons any time of the day. The menu includes a wide variety of choices—from pizza, pasta, chicken and steaks to Filipino favorites, killer appetizers, breakfast treats and heavenly desserts. Try the *chicharon bulaklak*, pesto pasta, jumbo porkchop and potato skins. Their iced tea smoothies and the generous servings of milkshakes are also must-orders. While you're waiting for your orders, check out the antique paraphernalia around you—old gas tanks, Hollywood photos, ancient records, even clunky phones that used to work until some creeps decided to abuse them and used them to make long-distance calls. There are billiard tables, too, and if you want a little more privacy while playing, rent the VIP room which has a billiard table, television and bar.

We love any place that stays open 24 hours a day every single day. Filling Station rocks.

FILLING
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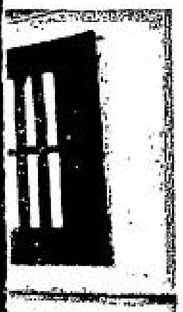
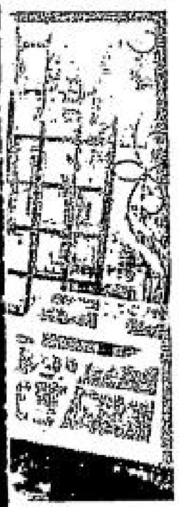




## Lanai Red

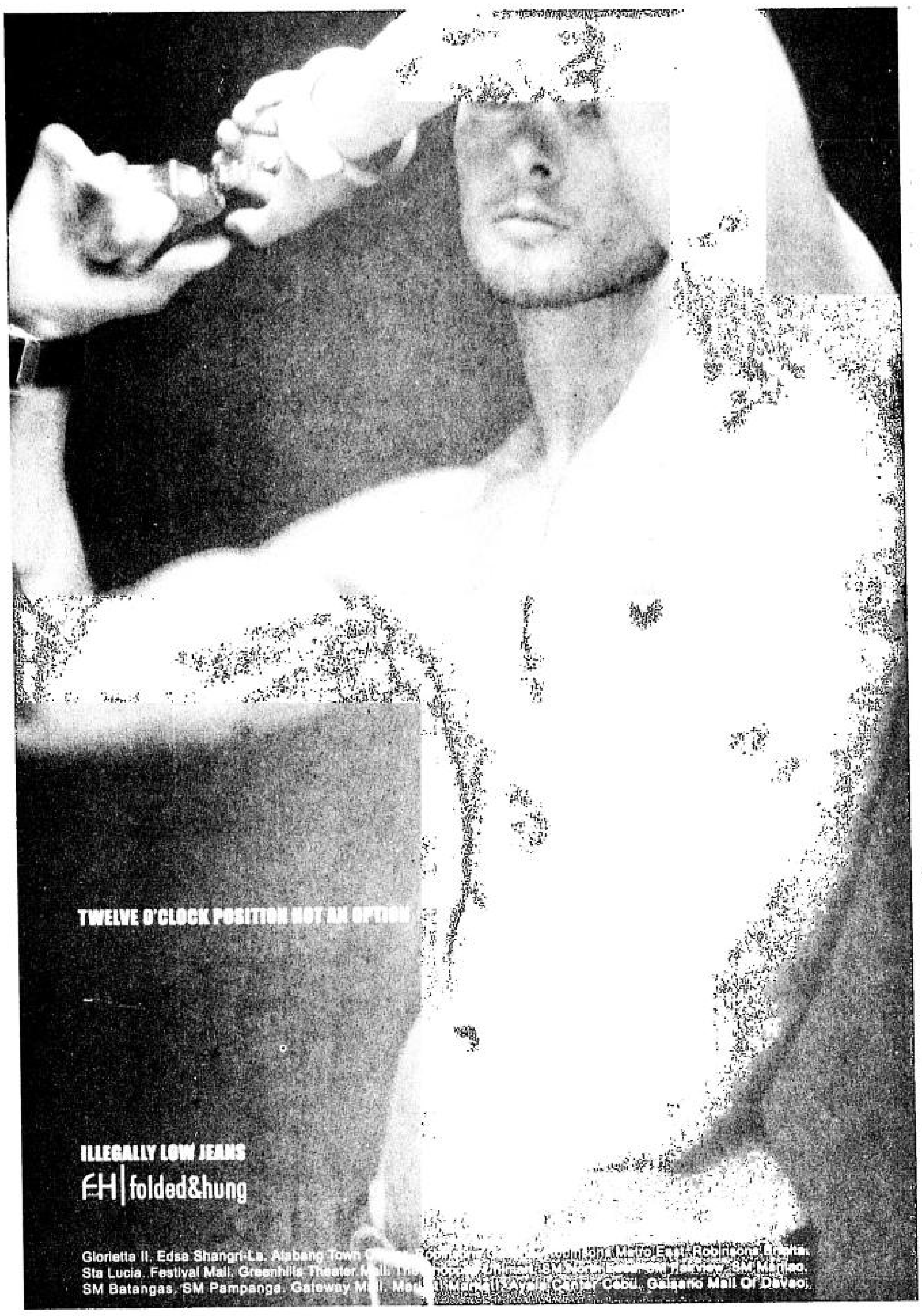
Westgate complex, Filinvest City,
Alabang
Phone: 771-1336
Happy Hour: 6 to 8 p.m.

The vibe: Pass me that Southern Comfort!

The lowdown: Care for some Seduction? Madness? Or how about a dose of Envy, Confusion and Rage? They're right on the drink list of the best thing to happen in the city's southern hemisphere called Alabang in recent times—the über-chillaxed space called Lanai Red. Finally, a real bar to serve the thirsty denizens of the far south!

The mood is classic Morcheeba playing on the stereo, candlelit corners and colorful cocktails served in tilted glasses. Just like its tranquil surroundings, Lanai Red exudes a cozy, homey ambience that's perfect for weeknight sessions or Saturday nightcaps when you're in the mood to indulge in tipsy conversations without having to shout at the top of your lungs. The stylish, linear interiors with a touch of Oriental flair were designed by Yolanda Zimmer of Design Access, also known for her work at the Lagen Resort, El Nido. A spacious, breezy circular lanai outside the main bar gives you the feel of chilling in your own home. A sweeping look at Lanai Red's loyal customers and you could tell that they're true-blue "Alabangers"—the laid-back, casual pack that look like they just stepped out of their bedrooms, donned in comfy tank tops, boardies and flipflops. It does up the comfort level!

"We are hoping to pioneer nightlife in the South. Since many people are now living in this side, like Alabang and Laguna, so a lot are looking for a place to drink after 'work or after dinner," says Lanai Red's co-owner Francesca Zimmer, who studied at the Ecole International de Glion in Switzerland. Through years of experience, Francesca works her magic behind the bar and has come up with a whole range of yummy, original cocktails and mocktails. Along with the kitchen chief Michael Tayag, the dynamic young duo adds that quintessential, personal touch to this cozy little enclave. How's that for some good ol' Southern hospitality?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